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A WEEKLY JOURNAL.

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## Summary

A SUPPLEMENT to the French Codex is to be published ere long.

UNDER "Practical Notes," concise instructions are given for keratin-coating pills.

WE give a review of the past and a statement of the present condition of cubebs.

GROCERS in France appear to be as keen to dabble in pharmacy as they are in England.

MR. KINGZETT and Mr. Tyrer contribute their views on the stability of hydrogen-peroxide solutions.

A SOUTH LONDON authority recommends the appointment of a special magistrate to deal with food and drug cases.

THE Liverpool Chemists' Association have resolved to erect a monument to the memory of the late Mr. J. S. Ward.

THE last meeting of Edinburgh assistants was a good one from a practical point of view—dispensing-notes mainly.

THE widow of an Irish chemist and druggist has been fined for compounding a prescription. Her business has been converted into a limited company.

GLASGOW chemists, as represented by the new Pharmaceutical Association, have been discussing some of the favourite professional stock-subjects in the light of ethics and business.

WE print a seasonable article by a West-end physician on "Coughs and Cough-mixtures."

THE General Medical Council have resolved to warn dentists regarding the employment of unqualified assistants. We think the Council can legally do nothing in this matter and say so in an Editorial Note.

"CHEMISTS' WIVES," in consequence of the smart letter from one of them last week, is now an offshoot from the discussion on "The Conditions of Labour in Pharmacy"—which subject also is continued at some length this week.

OUR Legal Reports include the case of Saxlehner v. the Apollinaris Company, in which, after a long argument, the Judge has refused the application of the defendant company for access to the plaintiff's books, but agreed to allow the inspection of certain correspondence up to the present year. The defendant company alleges that Hunyadi-János water sold for continental consumption has been exported to this country in violation of contract.—An action brought into the High Court of Justice by a Birmingham chemist in regard to Benedict Pills has resulted in the removal of the title from the trade-mark register, owing to it being an ancient one.—The Ipswich herbalist who was engaged in the penny-pill trade has been heavily fined for his fraudulent transactions.—An Alfreton chemist and several other tradesmen have been fined for keeping gunpowder; the defendants had failed to renew their registrations, which is the moral of the actions. Some other cases are dealt with.

## DIARY COMPETITION.

DIARIES for 1893 were forwarded on Monday and Tuesday to all subscribers to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST in the United Kingdom. Carriage has in every case been prepaid. Any who have not received the DIARY will please communicate with the Publisher at once.

### EACH COPY OF THE DIARY CONTAINS A COUPON

Entitling the subscriber to participate in the competition for a prize of ten guineas offered by the Editor. The coupon contains full particulars regarding the competition, and is itself the form which should be filled up and returned to the Editor. We may repeat here, however, that it is not essential that the subscriber himself should sign the coupon. If he does not care to do this, he may pass it to his assistant, apprentice, or any member of his family. There is no objection to his assisting the competitor with advice. For home subscribers the competition will close on December 31, 1892, but we should like returns to be sent in as promptly as possible.

## SCIENTIFIC MYSTERIES.

CHEMISTS are advised to stock and show this book in anticipation of the winter evenings. It contains particulars of 200 chemical and other experiments, is freely illustrated, and is the cheapest, most comprehensive, and most clearly described collection of experiments and illusions ever offered to the public.

It sells at 1s., and we supply it in one-dozen parcels with show card for 8s. 6d. It may be obtained at the same price from the following firms—

Ayrton & Saunders, 149 Duke Street, Liverpool  
Barclay & Sons (Limited), 95 Farringdon Street, E.C.  
Bleasdale, Wm., & Co., York  
Edwards, Wm., & Son, 157 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.  
Evans, Lescher & Webb, 60 Bartholomew Close, E.C.  
Evans, Sons & Co., 56 Hanover Street, Liverpool  
Glasgow Apothecaries' Company, Glasgow  
Goodall, Backhouse & Co., Leeds  
Ismay, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne  
Lloyd, T. Howard, & Co., Leicester  
Maw, S., Son & Thompson, Aldersgate Street, E.O.  
May, Roberts & Co., 9 Clerkenwell Road, E.O.  
Newbery, F., & Sons, King Edward Street, E.C.  
Raines Clark & Co., Edinburgh  
Smith, T. & H., & Co., 21 Duke Street, Edinburgh  
Thompson, John, Hanover Street, Liverpool  
Woolley, James, Sons & Co., Manchester  
Wyleys (Limited), Coventry

The advantage of stocking and selling this book is that it encourages and develops a new and profitable business in chemicals and chemical apparatus.

## English News.

### The Liverpool School of Pharmacy.

We understand that the above school, founded and for some years conducted by the late Mr. J. S. Ward, is now under the management of Mr. R. C. Cowley, pharmaceutical chemist. Mr. Cowley was a student of the school, and conducted it during Mr. Ward's illness.

### Funeral of Mr. J. S. Ward.

The remains of Mr. John Septimo Ward, M.P.S., F.C.S., President of the Liverpool Chemists' Association, were interred at Smithdown Road Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. J. W. Baker. The chief mourner was Mr. J. Cobb Buffon (the brother-in-law), and those present at the grave-side included Dr. Nevins, Messrs. C. Symes, Ph.D., R. M. Capon, J. Hocken, M. Conroy, G. Stuart, B. E. E. Evans, William Wellings, A. Mercer, R. C. Cowley, W. A. Jones, C. F. Symes, J. Walker, A. J. Lett, J. J. Smith, Aries, G. Brinson, Hornblower, J. Bain, J. R. Day, W. Burgess, A. S. Buck, T. H. Wardleworth, R. Parkinson, G. R. Burn, W. R. Smith, R. G. Smith, Powell (Botanic Gardens), and J. Smith (secretary to the Association). Mr. Ward was only 36 years of age.

### Sudden Death of a Retired Chemist.

On Monday, Mr. H. Chnrtton, the Birkenhead coroner, held an inquest on the body of Edward Lewis, 67, a retired chemist, who lived at 21 Woodchurch Lane. Deceased had been ailing for some time, but he had not been attended by a doctor. On Friday morning last he got up at his usual hour, and some time afterwards he returned to his bedroom. As he did not come down again his room was entered at 12 o'clock, when he was found lying on the floor, and almost immediately afterwards he died. The jury came to the conclusion that death was due to natural causes.

### Perils by Fire.

On November 21, Mr. Smith, chemist, Doncaster, met with an accident whilst engaged in mixing turpentine and beeswax. The turpentine ignited, and as he was carrying it out of the room the window-curtains caught fire. Mr. Smith was severely burnt about the hands and face, and had to be removed to the Infirmary. His clothes were literally burnt to pieces, and dropped from him as he was being conveyed to the Infirmary. He is getting better. The flames were subdued before much damage had been done.

On November 23, Mr. Hudson, chemist, of Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, was searching with a match under the counter for the wants of a customer, when by some means a lighted portion of the match dropped, setting fire to some petroleum. The tank of petroleum, which was situated near, did not, luckily, catch fire, though a portion of the fluid round the tank ignited. As it happened, little damage was done besides the breaking of a few pots.

A fire has occurred at the premises of Mr. Butterworth, chemist and druggist, Oswaldtwistle, through the exploding of a paraffin-oil lamp in the shop. The firemen were soon on the spot, but, through the inflammable nature of the contents of the shop, the fire had a considerable hold before the firemen obtained the upper hand.

### The Cost of Horse-medicines.

In the Westminster County Court on Tuesday, before His Honour Judge Bayley, Mr. Doller, a veterinary surgeon, sued a Mr. Nichols for the sum of 5/ 8s. in respect of horse-medicines supplied to the order of the defendant. The plaintiff gave evidence as to supplying the preparations which consisted of horse-drinks.

The defendant said he disputed the claim only on the ground that the charges were excessive, and because, in his opinion, the cost of the whole of the drugs which had been supplied to him would not exceed a few shillings. If, however, the plaintiff could disprove that statement, he (defendant) would consent to judgment.

The plaintiff was then recalled, and said the view which the defendant had taken as to the price of drugs and che-

micals was perfectly absurd and out of all reason. He (plaintiff) was prepared to swear that in this case the actual cost of the drugs would amount to about half the sum which he was claiming.

Defendant said if that was so he would offer no further objection to the plaintiff's claim, but would pay it cheerfully.

His Honour: Then there will be judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, to be paid in a week, with costs.

### A Special Food and Drugs Magistrate.

At the fortnightly meeting of the St. Saviour's District Board of Works, the Sanitary Committee brought forward a recommendation advising the Board to communicate with the London County Council, strongly urging them to insert in their next parliamentary Bill a clause which would empower them to appoint a stipendiary to attend exclusively to offences arising out of the Food and Drugs Act. The recommendation was unanimously agreed to, the medical officer remarking that an immense amount of time was wasted in attending police-court prosecutions, and when a conviction was obtained the fines inflicted were totally inadequate to meet the gravity of the offence.

### Death from Chemical Fumes.

Mr. John Geldart, foreman for Messrs. Adley & Tolkein, chemical manufacturers, Blackburn, died on Monday from a shocking accident. The deceased gentleman, along with his assistant, was experimenting with chemicals, used in the manufacture of chloride of zinc, when he became overpowered with the fumes, and, despite medical assistance, died. Mr. Geldart was well known throughout the North of England as a chemical-worker.

### Workhouse Dispensers' Salaries.

At the weekly meeting of the Guardians of the Strand Union, held on Tuesday night at the Administrative Offices, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden—Mr. T. Hill in the chair—Mr. Rouch moved that the salary of Mr. Hobbs, dispenser at the Edmonton Workhouse and Schools, be increased from 120/ to 150/ per annum. Mr. Hobbs came to them with the highest testimonials, and, during the time he had been in their service, had discharged his duties in a very able manner. Mr. Hindley, who seconded the proposition, said that the salary of Mr. Hobbs was very small considering the onerous nature of the duties he had to perform. Mr. Dodson said they had been served long and faithfully, and he thought they should not pay less than other Unions did for similar services. Mr. Turner proposed, and Mr. Lee seconded, that the maximum salary of Mr. Hobbs be fixed at 140/ per annum. The amendment was lost, as was also a further one, that the consideration of the matter be adjourned for three months. The original proposition was carried. Mr. Hobbs is a son of Mr. Charles Hobbs, Vice-Chairman of the Board. This is the second increase which has been granted to him since he entered the employment of the Board about two years ago.

The Local Government Board having refused to sanction an increase of salary to Mr. Herbert H. Hewitt, dispenser at the central offices of the Union, because he was an "assistant" dispenser, the Holborn Guardians, at their meeting on Wednesday night, resolved to send a letter to the Local Government Board, setting forth that Mr. Hewitt is not an assistant, that he is fully qualified to take a position for which other Unions pay 130/ per annum to commence with, and, further, that he has given entire satisfaction to the Guardians and to the poor by the kind manner and gentlemanly bearing he has shown to all. The Guardians, therefore, asked the Local Government Board to reconsider their decision, and allow Mr. Hewitt's salary to be raised from 100/ to 120/ per annum. Mr. Eade (pharmaceutical chemist, of Goswell Road) moved that this letter be sent, remarking that when the Local Government Board were made acquainted with the facts they would at once accede to the request. Mr. Davies seconded.

### The Apothecaries' Society's Preliminary Examination.

Some time ago the General Medical Council gave the Apothecaries' Society a hint to discontinue its Preliminary

examination, but the Society has not done so. Accordingly, last Friday the Council passed a resolution to the effect that they should address to apothecaries a further expression of opinion that the discontinuance of the Society's examination in arts for medical students would be for the public good.

#### Earlier Opening of Kew Gardens.

Mr. Shaw Lefevre received on Tuesday a deputation from the Richmond Town Council, who urged the desirability of opening Kew Gardens earlier than 12 noon. Mr. Lefevre held out little hope of this being done; the expense, he said, would be considerable, and scientific workers are opposed to being disturbed in the quiet hours of the morning.

#### Stas.

An extra meeting of the Chemical Society will be held on Tuesday, December 13, at 8 P.M., the anniversary of the death of Stas. A paper, specially prepared for the occasion by Professor J. W. Mallett, F.R.S., entitled "Jean Servais Stas, and the measurement of the relative masses of the atoms of the chemical elements," will be read and discussed.

#### Instructing the Magistrate.

A case of attempted suicide by taking laudanum by a woman was heard at the Highgate Petty Sessions on Monday. The chemist who had supplied the laudanum, the quantity of which was in dispute, said he carried on business at Whetstone.

Mr. Bodkin (chairman): Have you any explanation to give why you sold the poison to the prisoner? How much did you sell her?

Witness: One drachm.

Mr. Bodkin (holding up a 2-oz. phial): How full would it make it?

Witness: About up to the first mark.

Mr. Bodkin asked whether it was usual to serve poisons in this way, and whether he did not ask the name and address and the purpose for which it was wanted?

Witness: No; the Act is in two schedules. What you say is in reference to one schedule and not the other.

Mr. Bodkin: Then you can sell the poison without any restrictions?

Witness: Yes, I can.

Mr. Bodkin: Did you take her name and address?

Witness: No.

Mr. Bodkin: What would be the fatal dose?

Witness: I cannot say what I should consider a fatal dose. I know the quantity I should not sell without any inquiry. I should not sell more than a drachm without some inquiry.

Mr. Bodkin: Would an ounce kill?

Witness: I should think so.

Mr. Bodkin: Half an ounce?

Witness: It might.

Mr. Bodkin: A quarter?

Witness: No. If that bottle was full it would be more than a fatal dose. I should not have to register the sale of laudanum, but I should arsenic.

Mr. Bodkin said there ought to be more restrictions on the sale of poisons. A chemist might sell as much poison as would kill. The chemist was to put a label on the bottle with his name and address on it. The bottle, if it was half full of laudanum, would kill anyone. The label, he noticed, was not the chemist's.

Inspector Sanctuary said the shop had recently changed hands, and these were the old labels.

Mr. Bodkin said the utmost care ought to be used by chemists in selling poisons. There was no blame attached to the chemist in this case.

#### Disinfectants in Holborn.

At the usual fortnightly meeting of the Holborn Board of Works, held on Monday evening at the Town Hall, Gray's Inn Road, Mr. George Phillips in the chair, the Sanitary Committee recommended "that tenders be invited from several firms for the following articles, for one year, from Lady Day next:—Pale carbolic-acid fluid, prepared carbolic acid (soluble in water), carbolic disinfecting-powder, Sanitas crude fluid, flowers of sulphur, bisulphide of carbon, and spirits of salt." It was stated that the cost of disinfectants

for the last quarter to that Board was 240*l.*, while in the larger districts of Clerkenwell and St. Luke's the expenditure on these articles for the year only amounted to 150*l.* and 160*l.* respectively. The reason was that in these parishes they used carbolic acid, while in Holborn they used a fancy fluid which cost 6*s.* 6*d.* per gallon. The Chairman suggested that the disinfectants should be submitted to the analyst, so that they might be satisfied that they contained the necessary ingredients. Dr. Gibbon (Medical Officer of Health), in reply to the Board, said that for fifteen years they used carbolic acid for disinfecting purposes in the Holborn district, during which time they poisoned nine people—the last a most valuable life. In consequence of these disasters he recommended Jeyes' fluid, which was a most valuable disinfectant. They need not go to Jeyes' if they did not wish; there were other firms which made imitations of this fluid. The Chairman: Are they as good? Dr. Gibbon: No, sir. It is an utter mistake to say that Jeyes' is expensive—carbolic acid is much more expensive when you come to use it. Mr. T. G. Hawkins considered the amount spent on disinfectants a large sum of money for a small district like Holborn. Parishes three times the size of theirs used carbolic acid and poisoned no one. He thought they had a right to choose the most suitable, and, at the same time, the cheapest, article. The recommendation of the Sanitary Committee was adopted, as was also the suggestion of the Chairman.

#### One Month for Embezzlement.

At the Birmingham Police Court, on November 24, Alfred C. Wills, of Bath Street, Birmingham, was charged with having embezzled the sum of 1*l.* 11*s.*, the property of his employer, Mr. Egge, manufacturing chemist, Snow Hill, Birmingham. The prisoner received the amount in question on October 12 from a customer, and failed to account for it. He afterwards absconded, and was finally arrested in London. He was sentenced to one month's imprisonment, with hard labour.

## Irish News.

#### Exports of Belfast Aerated Waters.

The Belfast Harbour Commissioners state that there has been a decrease of 103 tons in the aerated-water exports during the past quarter, as compared with the corresponding three months of 1891.

#### Libelling an Apothecary.

The Court of Exchequer, Dublin, has refused to set aside the verdict for 500*l.* damages obtained by Dr. Kenny, L.A.H., M.P., against the *Freeman's Journal* for a cartoon in the weekly issue of the journal representing him as a priest-hunter.

#### A Weakness for Directories.

Two men named John Gallaher and Fred Kearns "suspicious characters," have been remanded for obtaining a directory by false pretences from the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin. Their *modus operandi*, as deposed by Mr. Cole, an official of the Hall, was to represent that they had been sent by some well-known person for a loan of the directory, with which they then decamped. This was one of several cases of the kind.

#### A Chemical Crib cracker.

Patrick Kearney, a *soi-disant* son of Mars, has been convicted of an attempt to "burgle" the counting-house of Messrs. Herald, Harper & Co., wholesale druggists, North Street, Belfast. The prisoner was detected by a pair of boots which he left behind him on the roof of the store, it being proved that he had recently purchased them from a local "Crispin." The accused said he was innocent, but having regard to a previous similar conviction he was "secluded" for nine months, and was ordered to be subject to two years' police supervision.

## Scotch News.

### Christison on French Medicine.

The *Edinburgh Medical Journal* has just published a letter written by the late Sir Robert Christison, from Paris, in September, 1820 (while he was a student), to Dr. Duncan, jun. In the course of it there is the following interesting passage:—

I have as yet seen very little of French medicine, the first fortnight of a student in Paris being spent in very different pursuits. To the physician's wards of La Charité I have paid one visit, and its history is briefly this. While going through the wards I met a dead patient carried out under the physician's nose, and soon afterwards went to their anatomical theatre, where I saw a slovenly inspection of three others who died the day before. The prescriptions of the physician consisted of nothing but an interminable succession of ptisanes, decoctions, and bouillons, occasionally spiced with squills, and other articles still more innocent. But the most uncommon incident that occurred was, that I saw above 100 patients visited, and not a single ounce of human blood shed, either by lancet or leech. This certainly does not accord well with the familiar appearance of our clinical and fever wards, where at least every other table is neatly set off every day with well-filled bleeding-cups.

But if Christison did not think much of Parisian medical skill, he was highly enamoured of the surgery. "Each of Dupuytren's operations," he adds, "is a clinical lecture of the most perfect description, being conducted with wonderful dexterity, briefly, clearly, and thoroughly explained at all its stages, without the least appearance of a wish to show off, and without the least deviation from a pleasing humanity and insinuating kindness."

### Electricity in Dundee.

Messrs. Doig & Son have followed the example of their neighbours across the street, and are to adopt the electric light in their High Street shop. It is expected that the public supply will be laid on before Christmas. The municipality have the matter in hand.

### Grocers Object to Chemists' Licences.

At the nineteenth annual meeting of the Edinburgh and Leith Licensed Grocers' Association, held on Thursday evening, November 24, the third in a series of resolutions, relating to licensing, adopted was—

That every means be taken by this Association to bring before Parliament and the Board of Inland Revenue the inconsistency of issuing grocers' licences to chemists and others contrary to the provisions of the Forbes-Mackenzie Act.

In moving this resolution Mr. W. Thorburn held that such licences were altogether unnecessary. His chief objection, however, was that very soon they might have a large increase in the number of applications for such licences from men who were not in any sense wholesale chemists, but who were retailers. If retail druggists got these licences it would be impossible to stop illicit traffic, because these druggists did business on every day of the week, and were liable to be called up at any hour of the night.

### Carbolic Poisoning.

On Monday, Thomas Bell, 50 years of age, who resided at West Adam Street, Edinburgh, died from the result of drinking carbolic oil in mistake for whisky. He had the oil in his possession for dressing a wound.

### The Crieff Poisoning-cases.

On Saturday, before Lord Stormonth Darling, the action was mentioned which had been raised by David Sprunt, sen., saw-miller, Drummond Castle, and his wife and five children, against the Caledonian Railway Company. Pursuers claimed 2,000*l.* as damages in respect of injuries from the effects of eating sugar which had been contaminated with weed-killer while it was being conveyed to Crieff. The case had been allowed to stand over to await the disposal of the case of Cramb, in which the same question was raised. The decision of the Inner House in favour of the Railway Company being now final, his Lordship, on the motion of the defenders, granted them absolvitor, with expenses.

## French Pharmaceutical News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**A CHANGE OF NAME.**—M. I. A. Anastay, the Paris pharmacist whose son, then an officer in the French army, murdered an old lady under particularly cruel circumstances last year and duly expiated his crime under the guillotine, has made an application to the authorities here with a view of having his name changed. M. Anastay wishes in future to be known as Basfaget, and has taken this step principally on behalf of a remaining son, now twenty-four years of age.

**ADDITIONS TO THE FRENCH CODEX.**—A decree from the Minister of Public Instruction has just been issued, authorising the publication of a supplement to the pharmaceutical codex. The following gentlemen have been appointed members of the commission to carry out this work:—Dr. Brouardel, President; M. Planchon, Director of the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy, Vice-President; MM. Jungfleisch and Bourgoin, professors at the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy; MM. Petit, Vigier, and Yvon, members of the Paris Society of Pharmacy; and Drs. Hayem, Ponchet, and Gilbert, of the Paris Faculty of Medicine.

**A MINERAL-WATER DEALER'S ADDRESS.**—The use of mineral-waters in France is far in excess of that in England, and the sale is but to a limited extent in the hands of pharmacists, as it is found to be a sufficiently lucrative business apart. M. Huchet, of 3 Passage Desgrais, Paris, is in this trade, but he thought his neighbour's address of 36 Rue Mathis was superior to his own, and duly usurped it. All went well until a hearse drove up to the latter's house one day, and the undertaker claimed a dead body. Then the neighbour complained, and has just won an action against M. Huchet, through which the enterprising water-dealer is financially the loser.

**PARIS PHARMACISTS' ASSISTANTS.**—Not to be outdone by the medical students who made such a poor figure in this city last week by their riotous behaviour, the Syndical Association of Pharmacists' Assistants of France held a general meeting last Sunday night. The proceedings, which were of a very orderly character, commenced at the late hour of 11 P.M., at the Salle Breton, Rue Etienne-Marcel. A report of the work accomplished by the syndicate was read, and a resolution was passed authorising the formation of four new branches in Paris. The General Secretary made a statement to the effect that the membership is now sufficiently large to enable the Association to commence an agitation in favour of closing pharmacies at 9 P.M. He also stated that the offices are to be removed to the Faubourg Montmartre. The meeting broke up during the early hours of Monday morning. One of the articles adopted was the following:—"Duelling is absolutely prohibited amongst members of the Society, and any member taking part in a duel will be immediately expelled from the Association." It appears that this action was taken on account of a recent incident. The article in question apparently met the views of all present, as it was voted for unanimously, besides being loudly cheered.

**CHEMISTS AND GROCERS.**—A group of grocers of the town of Bourg appear to have been considerably incensed by the recent annual visit to their shops of the Inspector of Pharmacies. As a result, they have issued a lengthy circular to their brother-grocers by way of protest. Of course they attack the question of pharmaceutical specialities in the first place, and answer negatively to their own satisfaction the question whether or not pharmacists have a right to the monopoly of the "mass of new products which have replaced antiquated medicaments, especially as the circulars accompanying the former give all necessary information." Then they display a charming sympathy for the population of rural districts, "who always have a grocer near at hand, but rarely a pharmacy," and write mournfully that such useful luxuries as Swiss pills and mustard plasters are, perhaps, not to be had at a moment's notice. After this the grocers adopt a more patronising tone, and the circular runs, "Pharmacy, daughter of Grocery, was weaned from its mother only a little more than a century ago (1777) to form a new commercial and

scientific branch. Since then she has monopolised, but without being able to completely assimilate them, numerous medicinal and hygienic substances which properly belong to the grocer-druggist." The philanthropic circular-writer next asks, "Why should pharmaceutical specialities, which offer relief and health to all, not be put within the easy reach of all by the intermediary of grocers?" A kind of general attack on pharmacists follows, in which pharmacists are told that their proper place is in the laboratory, and out of that they remain the simple grocer of a century ago. The circular concludes by declaring that the pharmacist must give up his pretensions and allow the honest grocers, "whose incontestable science has inspired the confidence of all," to share their trade. It may be a satisfaction to the despised *épiciers* of Bourg to give vent to their feelings, and with that they will probably have to remain content.

## Foreign and Colonial News.

**U.S.A. TRADE-MARKS.**—The following were registered at Washington on November 15:—"The Royal Windsor Hair Restorer," for a hair-dressing, by Joseph Jackson, Paris; "Van's Best," for throat, lung, and kidney remedies, by M. Van Every, Buffalo, N.Y.; "Vitaqua," for medicines, by H. W. Van Rensselaer, Waukesha, Wis.; "Rhemadyne," for medicine, by H. O. Price, Cleveland, Ohio; "Katharmon," for proprietary medicines, by the Katharmon Chemical Company, St. Louis, Mo.; "Pacita," for dog-medicines, by Eliza L. Scott, London, England.

**KEASBEY & MATTISON**, manufacturing chemists, Ambler, Pa., is to be converted into a stock company with a capital of \$2,000,000. Dr. Richard V. Mattison is to be president and general manager, Edwin H. Hammer vice-president, George R. Wallace secretary, and H. B. Keasbey treasurer. It is understood, says the *American Druggist*, that the concern is of the nature of a close corporation, and that little or none of the stock will be sold. Mr. Keasbey will retire from active participation. The new company will practically control the manufacture of magnesia in the United States.

**ILLICIT DRUGGISTS IN BARBADOES**—There seem to be no medical or pharmaceutical laws of any kind in Barbadoes. A Bill for the examination and registration of druggists has been repeatedly introduced in the local Legislature, but only to be shelved on every occasion. Now the *Bridgetown Reporter*, a local journal, is sending up a wail to the ruling powers of the community beseeching them to put an end to the existing state of lawlessness. The Barbados Revenue, it would seem, suffers considerable loss by "the illicit sale of spirits in those places where they ostensibly deal in medicines, hair-oils, and confectionery. Scores of such places exist, and are all characterised by a beggarly array of empty bottles labelled to imitate in a faint degree the drug-bottles which form part of the equipment of a regular chemist's shop, while bottles of 'sweets' are arranged on the shelves to serve the double purpose of tempting the urchins to spend their spare coppers and to act as a blind to the real business of drinking and gambling going on within. In these places considerable quantities of liquor are sold under some other name, such as 'sweet spirits of turpentine' (*sic!*) or some such stuff."

## Business Changes.

**MR. WALTER LLOYD**, of Carmarthen, has removed into a new shop near his old one, which has been fitted for him by Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Thompson.

**MR. JAMES GARDNER**, dispenser in charge of stores at the R.N. Hospital, Chatham, has been appointed to Plymouth Hospital in charge of medical stores, *vice* Ewing, pensioned.

**MR. GEORGE SQUIRE**, pharmaceutical chemist, has purchased the old-established business at 19 Haymarket, Sheffield, carried on for a great number of years by Mr. Wm. Botham.

**MR. F. W. ROUSE**, chemist and druggist, of High Street, Clapham, has acquired the business lately carried on by Mr. A. C. Kendall, at 126 Clapham Road, and is carrying it on as a branch.

**MR. E. MATCHAM**, of Ipswich, has just opened a branch shop in the St. Helens suburb of that town. Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Thompson were entrusted with the whole of the work of fitting it.

**MR. WILLIAM DAVIES**, chemist and druggist, 30 High Street, Hereford, has transferred the business he has carried on at the above address for the last twenty-seven years to Mr. John Walker, of 5 Widemarsh Street, Hereford.

**MR. A. JARVIS**, of Parkstone, near Bournemouth, has had a new pharmacy fitted, which is very effective. The principal exterior feature is a window 20 feet long with inclined mirrors at both ends. The fittings were executed by Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Thompson.

**MR. G. F. MERSON**, pharmaceutical chemist, who, during the past three and a half years, has acted as manager of the laboratory of Mawson, Swan & Weddell, 20 West Grainger Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has purchased the old-established business of the late Mr. W. Boyd Johnstone, 89 Shields Road.

**MR. ALFRED H. MASON**, as the representative of the Warrington Chemical Company for chloroform and carbolic acid, and of Mr. G. W. Nichols for precipitated chalk, has taken into partnership his son, Mr. H. Baskerville Mason, and the firm will trade at 32 Snow Hill as Alfred H. Mason & Son.

## TRADE-MARKS APPLIED FOR.

ANY person who has good grounds of objection to the registration of any of the following marks should at once communicate with Sir Reader Lack, Comptroller-General, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," November 23, 1892.)

Device of bulldog and cat, and wording; for dog and cat medicines. By the Edinburgh Drug store Company (Limited), 9 Cowgate, Dundee.

"SANS PEUR," device of shield, three stars, and signature; for an insecticide. By J. Sutherland, Victoria Nursery, Lenzie, Dumbarton. The essential particular is the device and *facsimile* signature of applicant. 167,055.

"ACME NEURALGIC MIXTURE," wording, and signature; for a neuralgic mixture for internal use. By F. D. Jeacock, 18 London Road, South Lowestoft. The essential particular is the signature. 166,979.

Device of life-buoy; for mineral and aerated water. By the Johannis Company (Limited), 25 Regent Street, London. 167,378.

"BUR-KOMA"; for a fluid tonic for the hair. By C. Sharp, trading as the Imperial Chemical Company, 4 and 5 Creed Lane, Ludgate Hill, London. 167,133.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," November 30, 1892.)

"SEMOTINE," signature, and wording on label; for an embrocation for human use. By T. P. Tilley, trading as John Walker & Son, 52 Elliott Road, Chiswick. 165,287.

Device of segment of the earth, with figure floating above, holding scroll and branch of plant, and wording; for medicines, not including salve or ointment. By H. E. Warren, 44 Trinity Square, Brixton, Surrey. 166,555.

"STANDARD DOMESTIC AMMONIA," and device of three arrows; for a domestic liquid ammonia washing preparation. By the Standard Ammonia Company (Limited), Ordnance Wharf, East Greenwich. 167,063.

"THE PHOENIX" under device of the fabulous bird; for cash-tills. By E. Edwards and C. Fothergill, trading as The Phoenix Hardware Company, Hood Street, Liverpool. 165,808.

## Legal Reports.

### SAXLEHNER v. APOLLINARIS COMPANY (LIMITED): HUNYADI-JANOS WATER.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court on Friday, before Mr. Justice Stirling, a motion on behalf of the defendant company in the action *Andreas Saxlehner v. the Apollinaris Company (Limited)* came on for hearing. Mr. Graham Hastings, Q.C., and Mr. John Cutler appeared for the defendants, the Apollinaris Company (Limited); and Mr. Buckley, Q.C., and Mr. Grosvenor Woods for the plaintiffs in the action.

Mr. Hastings said he had to move, on behalf of the company, that the order made by his Lordship in Chambers on August 11, 1892, might be discharged, and that it be ordered that the plaintiff do produce certain books, accounts, and ledgers, referred to in the affidavit of documents, and also that the defendants have liberty to amend their statement of defence and counterclaim. The action itself was brought, he explained, by Saxlehner against the company, and the relief asked by the action was to restrain the company from selling or taking orders for certain natural aperient mineral waters except Hunyadi-János. The Apollinaris Company defended the action, and counterclaimed for relief and damages on the ground of breach of an agreement between them and the plaintiff, one clause of which was that—for a period now expired but prolonged by a new agreement, and still subsisting—the Apollinaris Company should have the exclusive right of selling this Hungarian water in Great Britain and almost everywhere except upon the Continent of Europe. By the agreement, the company bound itself not to compete with Saxlehner on the Continent, and Saxlehner became bound to refer to the company all orders sent to him which he knew or had good reason to believe were intended for sale in the places covered by the Apollinaris Company. In their counterclaim the company rely upon this clause, and assert that the plaintiff had received but had not handed over to the company orders for the water intended for this country and other places reserved to the defendants by the agreement, and they complain that large quantities of Hunyadi-János water have come to England through the agency of the plaintiff, notwithstanding that he was restricted by his contract from making sales in the United Kingdom. Mr. Saxlehner, the original plaintiff, had died pending this litigation, and the action was now being revived by his widow and representatives, against whom the counterclaim was accordingly made. Upon the counterclaim Mme. Saxlehner had made an affidavit in which she stated that she had also in her possession numerous books, accounts, and ledgers used in her husband's business, but that none of those books would disclose more than was disclosed in the correspondence already exhibited between her husband and his customers. She also said that she had not, nor had her late husband, executed any orders which they had had any reason to believe were intended for the Apollinaris Company. And then she made the statement about the books and ledgers showing orders, receipts, and payments, but added that to the best of her knowledge and belief none of them contained any entries relevant to the issues in the action, and even if relevant, could only be so for the purposes of consequential accounts and inquiries. Upon that statement, he apprehended that the defendants were entitled to the inspection of those books. If they were not relevant, they should not have been mentioned in the affidavit, and it was impossible that the defendant in the counterclaim was in a position to say that these books must be assumed, without any evidence, to contain something which was irrelevant. The defendant company had named nine firms in connection with which they said that the plaintiff Saxlehner had broken his part of the agreement, and they were entitled to see the books in connection with these firms. He understood that his Lordship had been impressed in Chambers with the oppressiveness to the plaintiff of bringing the business books over to this country from Budapest, where the business was carried on; but only those not now in use need be brought, and regarding these there would be no oppressiveness at all.

The others could be shown to duly authorised persons, sealing up those parts not referring to the firms specified.

His Lordship remarked that the practice of requiring people in business to show their books was much complained of by business men.

Mr. Hastings replied that, notwithstanding, as the law stood, they were required to bring them. On the Continent this water was sold almost entirely in small bottles. England took large bottles almost exclusively; and what he had to suggest was that if a person found that a large agent—say, in Marseilles—took a great quantity of the large bottles from the plaintiff which he transhipped at once to this country, that person must have good reason to know that those large bottles were bought for an improper purpose—that was to say, for a purpose which was a violation of the bargain between the plaintiff and the defendants. The counterclaim was that the plaintiff had committed a breach of the agreement in several instances, by which the company had suffered damage. That was the case which the company would have to prove at the trial, and therefore the suggestion about consequential accounts and inquiries seemed to be beside the question. The correspondence also which was referred to was not sufficient satisfaction in substitution for the books, nor was the assertion that that correspondence contained all the information which could be got from the books. As a matter of fact, it did not, and therefore that also was beside the question. In fact it was difficult to see why inspection of the books was refused. It had been suggested by counsel for Saxlehner that it was not probable that he would have any entry in his books which would incriminate him; but that was a point for other people to judge of. Then it was said that the defendants had threatened to determine the contract now subsisting, and that if they saw the plaintiff's books they would on the determination of the agreement be able to go and sell to the plaintiff's customers. There might be a power to determine the contract; but if there were the answer to the suggestion was that anyone against whom inspection was desired would be able to say, "Oh, but you will know our customers." That argument was perfectly untenable. The defendants had produced all their books, and might reply that when the contract was determined the plaintiff might go and sell Hunyadi-János water to traders whose names had been discovered by seeing the defendants' books. The second part of the case was that which asked liberty to amend the defence and counterclaim, so as to include claims which had arisen since the delivery of the counterclaim. The counterclaim was delivered in 1890, and though the importation into England was stopped for some time, it had since been resumed with much greater vigour, and the defendants now wanted to include those subsequent importations, which they believed had been taken principally from M. Gatzert, of Marseilles. At the trial the defendants would probably be in a difficulty if confined to giving evidence only up to the time of the delivery of their counterclaim.

His Lordship: The allegation in the counterclaim is in the nature of particulars.

Mr. Hastings replied yes, and therefore the defendants would be in a difficulty if they had not liberty to claim beyond the date of the counterclaim. That was in the nature of evidence, and he thought the evidence would satisfy his Lordship that there was a case—of course he did not say a conclusive case, because his Lordship was not now trying it—but a case entitling the defendants to amend by making the additional claim. He then proceeded to read an affidavit made by Mr. Julius Charles Prince, a director of the Apollinaris Company, who deposed therein to the large import into this country from Marseilles and other Continental ports of Hunyadi-János water, which were traced through Custom House entries. The importation consisted of 2,811 cases of bottles. Of these, 714 cases came *via* Marseilles, 194 *via* Hamburg, and 1,903 *via* Rotterdam. He further deposed that the defendant company had been unable to ascertain as yet the names of the persons by whom these cases had been exported other than Gatzert, but that the purchasers could easily be ascertained by inspection of the plaintiff's books. He afterwards wrote calling plaintiff's attention to an advertisement appearing in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, the trade paper which circulated most largely among the chemists and druggists in England. The first of these advertisements was on August 15, 1891, and

there was another advertisement in the same paper on September 17, 1892. Mr. Prince wrote to the plaintiff, seriously urging him to abstain from furnishing supplies, especially of large bottles, which were almost solely used in this country, and not in Germany.

Mr. Buckley, Q.C., read the affidavit in reply made by the representative of Mme. Saxlehner. He submitted that, this being an appeal from a decision by the Judge in Chambers, Mr. Prince's affidavit was not admissible. He went on to state that there had always been a large sale of large bottles on the Continent, and therefore denied that if a dealer ordered large bottles the plaintiff would be bound to infer therefrom that they were intended to be sold elsewhere than on the Continent. All plaintiff's customers had been warned that they must not export to England, and, further, each bottle sent out by him contained a warning to that effect. He did not doubt, however, that there were considerable importations of the water into the districts reserved to the defendant company, because they had raised the price, so that the retail price was much higher in England than on the Continent, and this made it much more profitable for traders in England to buy their supplies from the Continental wholesale traders, and more profitable for the latter also to sell to the English traders. This had been pointed out to the defendant company, who thus were themselves, and not the plaintiff, responsible for the indirect trade which had taken place, and who could at once stop that sale by reducing their price. The plaintiff had not supplied any trader on the Continent with cheaper water to be sent into England. It would not be possible for the plaintiff, nor was she bound, to prevent indirect importation which had really arisen from the defendants' own conduct, and not from the conduct of the plaintiff. He submitted that in all the circumstances the defendants ought not to be allowed to amend their claim as proposed. He believed the Marseilles firm would not execute an order which they knew to be intended for the defendants' district, and he referred in this connection to correspondence with M. Gatzert *ainé*, when he sent the plaintiff an order for 388 cases of large bottles to be sent to Trieste. In reply to that order, plaintiff wrote as follows to the Marseilles firm: "As, up to this, you have almost exclusively asked half-bottles, I wish to ask you whether these are likewise exclusively intended for consumption on the Continent?" On November 2, 1891, Gatzert wrote confirming the order, and stating: "These cases have been ordered by one of my customers here, and for consumption on the Continent. As you know, I am not doing an export trade in Hunyadi-János." It might be that purchasers from Gatzert might resell and transship the goods to England without their being responsible or even aware of it. In reply to defendant's letter, the plaintiff wrote maintaining that he had always fulfilled the contract, and asserting that the defendants were taking up an illegal position against which he protested. He did not believe that inspection of the plaintiff's books or production of the correspondence asked for would afford the defendants any assistance at all in the case they set up, which he believed to be a purely imaginary one without the slightest foundation, and he submitted that any further production would be oppressive and vexatious.

Mr. Hastings followed by reading the affidavit made by Mr. Prince in reply to that of the plaintiff. In it Mr. Prince repeated his statement that the sale on the Continent was principally small bottles, and produced a large number of traders' price-lists in which the quotations given were for small bottles only. The defendants had spent 50,000% in advertising, and the only means of recouping themselves was by selling the water at the higher price. Mr. Hastings then submitted that upon this evidence he was entitled to what he asked. Immense quantities of the water had been imported hither from abroad and sold here contrary to the bargain between the plaintiff and the company. The fact that the application was opposed suggested that there was not that confidence on the part of the defendant in the counterclaim which one would expect if there was no foundation for the charge. Saxlehner's own letter to Gatzert showed that prior thereto Gatzert had almost exclusively taken half-bottles; yet in the affidavit for the plaintiff it was denied that the sale on the Continent was in small bottles, not large ones. He submitted that justice might possibly be defeated if the defendants were not allowed to extend the period covered by their counterclaim, and—un-

less of course the plaintiff was in the wrong in the matter—it could do the plaintiff no harm.

Mr. Buckley, Q.C., then addressed the Court on behalf of the plaintiff Saxlehner. He said that the order in Chambers was made on an application supported by an affidavit made by Mr. Prince, in which he stated that he had gone through the correspondence referring to Gatzert, and that it did not contain the corroborative evidence which the defendant company sought to obtain. Mr. Prince also said he was convinced from the result of the examination of the correspondence, so far, that if the whole of the correspondence were examined it would be found not to contain the corroboration wanted, and therefore he claimed production and inspection of the books and accounts. He (Mr. Buckley) might summarise that affidavit thus: The defendants, having a purely imaginary case, have searched the documents all through and found nothing at all, and therefore said, "Since we have not got our corroboration there, it is somewhere else." The plaintiff told them, on the other hand, that disclosure of his books and ledgers before trial, without giving the defendants any assistance in their case, would enable them to ascertain the names of his customers and the extent of their dealings, and on the determination of the agreement would enable them injuriously to compete with him. The Judge in Chambers did not think fit to make any order on that application; and he submitted that there was now absolutely no scintilla of a case to justify the discharge of that order. The defendants said the documents disclosed did not help them, therefore the documents not disclosed would help them. That was an absurd position. But he was willing to offer this—to make affidavit that the letters submitted comprised all the orders and invoices referred to in the counterclaim.

His Lordship: That is to say, that all the information they would get from an examination of the books would be got from that correspondence?

Mr. Buckley: Yes. Upon that offer, he submitted that the first part of the present application should be refused. Then as to the application to amend the counterclaim, he would remind his Lordship that notice of the action was first given in 1887, notice of trial was given on April 24, 1889, the pleadings were subsequently amended by leave, and the date of delivery of the amended rejoinder was December 31, 1890. The action was perfectly ready for trial.

His Lordship: Is it set down for trial?

Mr. Buckley replied that it was not actually set down, but it was ready for trial, and it was now asked for leave to amend upon, as he submitted, a purely imaginary case.

After some further argument,

His Lordship, addressing Mr. Buckley, said that the case the defendants were now placing before the Court was that Saxlehner had been guilty of a breach of contract by executing orders which he had reason to believe were intended for this country, and that the dealings since the counterclaim was put in threw light on the previous proceedings. Ought the Court to shut that out?

Mr. Buckley submitted that the Court should. There was that discretion in the Court.

His Lordship: Yes, as regards a new case.

Mr. Buckley submitted that this really was a new case, the previous one having failed. The defendants had examined the correspondence, and had found nothing.

His Lordship: Yes, but interpreting that correspondence by the subsequent facts.

Mr. Buckley: What I object to is the postponement of this matter.

His Lordship: But there will be no postponement.

Mr. Buckley: If my friend simply wishes to include further correspondence.

Mr. Hastings: That is all I ask.

Mr. Buckley: But we must not be hung up by an order for further discovery.

His Lordship: It will include the correspondence down to 1892. That will not postpone the trial a bit. I understand Mr. Hastings wants to substitute for "1890" in the case of Gatzert "1892."

Mr. Buckley: But my friend wants it in respect of all the nine firms referred to in the case.

His Lordship: I should not be inclined to do that.

Mr. Hastings offered to confine it to those which came up to 1890. That would exclude the cases of Müller, of Ham

burg; M. Rozenthal, of Hamburg; W. Döring or R. Jacobi, of Elberfeld; and Rosenberg, Loewe & Co., Hamburg.

Mr. Buckley asked to exclude also the cases of Joh. Graht, Hamburg, and Steinike & Weinlig, Hamburg, from whom the defendants had already got an undertaking not to sell in this country. It was only against Gatzert that any case was suggested.

Mr. Grosvenor Woods having addressed the Court for the plaintiff, and Mr. Hastings having replied,

His Lordship gave judgment on the application. After stating the nature of the motion, and also of the action and counterclaim as disclosed by the statements of counsel and the affidavits, he said that in considering in Chambers the application for further production and discovery he took into consideration the existence of correspondence between Saxlehner and his customers. That correspondence would, *prima facie*, contain all the orders which Saxlehner received and executed with reference to this water. That correspondence, so far as examined, had not given Mr. Prince, who for this purpose represented the Apollinaris Company, any of the information he wanted, and thereupon he desired the books to examine. It had seemed to his Lordship highly improbable that anything would be got from them, for this reason—that naturally the evidence which would show that Mr. Saxlehner knew, or had reason to suppose, that the water ordered from him was intended for England would be derived from the correspondence, and it was not likely that he would enter in his books aught to show that he knew or had reason to believe that the supplies ordered from him were intended for England. It was also represented that the books were very voluminous and could not conveniently be brought to this country; and in all the circumstances disclosed he refused to order their production. Accordingly, the present application for production was now made in Court. Mr. Buckley, for the plaintiff, had stated that he was ready to give an affidavit to the effect that the books would disclose nothing that could not be got by inspection of the correspondence, and the defendants were willing to accept such an undertaking. On that affidavit being made, therefore, there would be no order on the motion. But he was also asked to allow the counterclaim to be amended, and in reality the application seemed to be one for liberty to give further particulars. In the case of Gatzert it was sought to bring the case down to the year 1892, and the question was, Ought the Court to shut the defendants out from giving evidence on the subject of the additional allegations of breach of the contract between 1890 and 1892? He was expressing no opinion on the case itself as it now stood, but he did not think, having regard to the statements in the affidavit, that he ought to exclude the defendants from trying to prove them. It might be that the course of business subsequent to 1890 might throw light on the transactions between Saxlehner and Gatzert in 1890. He had doubts as to including the three other Hamburg firms mentioned in the defendant's lists (J. J. Nehemias, Joh. Graht, and Steinike & Weinlig), but as it was doing nothing to prejudice the trial of the action, the case not yet being set down for trial, and as it was better to make an end of the matter as far as possible and have the whole threshed out, he would allow further particulars in their case also. The Vichy Company, of Paris, had also been mentioned, but he saw nothing to connect that company with this case, and he did not think it ought to be added to the others. He accordingly gave leave to amend the counterclaim by substituting the year 1892 for 1890 in the four cases named.

On the application of Mr. Buckley,

His Lordship said that the motion, so far as it related to the discharge of the order made in Chambers, failed, and the costs so far would go to the plaintiff. The costs of the application for further particulars would be costs in the action.

#### DAMAGING A CHEMICAL DICTIONARY.

In the City of London Court last week, before Mr. Registrar Wild, Mr. John Bowring, of Tilbury, sought to recover from Messrs. Wells & Co., bookbinders, 18 Sherborne Lane, E.C., the sum of 6*l*, being the value of a copy of "Watts's Chemical Dictionary," alleged to have been spoiled by them. The plaintiff said he instructed Messrs. Stoneham, the

publishers, to forward a copy of the complete parts of "Watts's Chemical Dictionary" to the defendants to be bound. When the three volumes were returned to him, the plaintiff said he found that through the negligence and unskilfulness of the defendants they had spoiled the work by cutting the margins too close to the printing. He added that he was very careful in impressing on the defendants the necessity of not cutting down the edges because the value of the book as a work of reference would be considerably reduced.

The defendants contended that they had only cut the edges as little as possible.

A copy of the book as bound by Messrs. Longmans was produced by the plaintiff, and this showed how much margin there originally was.

Mr. Registrar Wild said no doubt the books had been damaged but their usefulness was not lessened to any extent whatever. The plaintiff, no doubt, was entitled to nominal damages. He would give him 1*s.* per copy, because there had been no special damage done.

Judgment for 3*s.* and costs was therefore entered.

#### THE PENNY-PILL TRADE.

At the Essex County Quarter Sessions, Arthur Westrup, 30, heralshalt, of Cowper Street, St. John's, Ipswich, was indicted for obtaining 3*l*. 15*s.* by false pretences from Charles Richard Stannard, grocer, with intent to defraud, at Danbury, on September 8. We recently gave a full report of the case. The prisoner appointed Mr. Stannard as agent for the sale of "noted antibilious pills," "wind-pills," &c., prepared by the Herhal Company, Ipswich, assuring him that he should be the sole agent for a radius of ten miles. There was no profit on the sale of the pills, but the prisoner undertook to pay Mr. Stannard a salary of 10*s.* a week. On these representations he was induced to take and pay for a large quantity of pills. The salary, however, was not forthcoming, and it was found that the prisoner had appointed several other agents within the ten-miles' radius. Thomas Allington, baker, of Woodham Walter; Julia Campen, grocer, of Little Waltham; Martha Russell, of Terling; Clara Frances Praill, of Springfield; and Elizabeth Wood, Terling, all of whom were appointed agents by the prisoner, gave evidence. For the defence it was urged that the prosecutor had lost nothing by the transaction, and that he should have sued the prisoner for the amount of salary in the County Court. Mr. Raglan Somerset, Deputy-Chief Constable, said he had received a very large number of letters from persons who complained of being defrauded by the prisoner in exactly the same way. In some cases the prisoner had sent them formal agreements. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was fined 20*l.*, or in default two months' imprisonment. He was also bound over in two sureties of 50*l.* and 20*l.* to be of good behaviour for twelve months; in default another month's imprisonment. The fine was paid, and the recognisances entered into.

#### BENEDICT PILL TRADE-MARK—HOLLICK v. HORTON.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, on Friday last, before Mr. Justice Chitty, Mr. Farwell, Q.C., mentioned the case of Hollick v. Horton, which was an action for infringement of trade-mark. Learned counsel [who was instructed by Messrs. Glaisyer & Porter, of Birmingham] said that he represented Mr. Horton, who asked that the registered trade-mark of Mr. Hollick, a chemist and druggist, carrying on business at Bury Street, Birmingham, might be rectified by expunging therefrom the word "Benedict," or in the alternative for a disclaimer of exclusive right to such word. The plaintiff was the owner of the trade-mark "Benedict Pills," and he brought the action against the defendant to restrain him from making use of the mark, or selling pills in boxes so named. His client had since found himself to be in the wrong, and he consented to his trade-mark being expunged and his paying the costs of the plaintiff and the Comptroller. His Lordship ordered accordingly.

#### CARRIERS' LIABILITIES.

In the Westminster County Court on Monday, his Honour Judge Bayley and a jury were engaged in trying the case of

**Lewin v. The London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company**, in which the plaintiff, a sponge merchant, carrying on business at 80 Houndsditch, sought to recover the sum of 33*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, being the value of a portmanteau and its contents which were lost while in the custody of the defendants for transit from Herne Bay to Dover.

It appeared from the evidence of the plaintiff, Mr. Alfred Lewin, that on August 31 last he was engaged at Herne Bay in the conduct of his business, and was desirous of proceeding to Dover Priory. For that purpose it was necessary for him to change carriages at Faversham, and at that place he saw his property taken from the luggage-van; but upon his arrival at Dover it was missing, and notice was at once given to the officials there. Everything possible was done to recover the package, which contained his trade samples and books, but from that time to the present it had not been traced. In cross-examination, the plaintiff denied that he told the officials at Dover that the package only contained trade samples and was not of any value. As a matter of fact, it contained not only samples and account-books, but a quantity of wearing apparel and jewellery, which it had cost him about 30*l.* to replace, besides which he had been put to great inconvenience and loss of time, and consequently loss of trade.

Mr. McGasky, on behalf of the railway company, said there could be no doubt that an unfortunate accident had occurred, but that was no reason why the company should be called upon to pay vindictive damages. He (counsel) submitted that the proper measure of damage which the jury should award was the value of the goods at the time when they were lost, and not what they cost in the first instance. It was not denied that the plaintiff had been subjected to loss of time and inconvenience by the loss of his trade books and samples, but he was not entitled to charge the defendants for such loss of time.

In addressing the jury, his Honour said the claim of five guineas for loss of time could not be sustained, but it would be for them to say to what amount the plaintiff was entitled for the loss of his property.

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, and assessed the damages at 23*l.*, expressing an opinion that the plaintiff had, as a commercial man, been put to very great inconvenience.

Judgment was entered, with taxed costs.

ON Monday, in the City of London Court, before Mr Commissioner Kerr, the Zealand Steamship Company sued Messrs. W. L. Cole & Co., Farringdon Street, for certain carriers' charges. The charges were not in dispute, but the defendants raised a counter-claim for 7*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* for damage done to the goods which the plaintiffs had carried. The Company delivered the goods to the defendants, but then the carman was told to sling the cases so that they might be hoisted to the second floor. While this was being done the goods fell out, and the merchants sought to make the carriers liable for the act of their servant. For the defendants it was contended that slinging the goods was merely delivering them, which the carriers were bound to do; while the plaintiffs' solicitor argued that the carman was acting beyond the scope of his authority in slinging the goods for the defendants. Mr. Commissioner Kerr said it was a popular fallacy to suppose that carriers had anything else to do besides telling the consignees that the goods were ready for them. Putting the goods on the pavement was delivery, but it did not involve slinging them. The carriers were not liable for the damage that had occurred. Therefore he must find for the plaintiffs on claim and counter-claim.

#### REGISTRATION UNDER THE EXPLOSIVES ACT.

**JOSEPH SPENSER ROBINSON**, chemist, Alfreton, was summoned at the Alfreton Police Court, on Friday of last week, for keeping 38 lbs. of gunpowder on premises not registered under the Explosives Act, on November 17, at Alfreton. From the evidence of Superintendent Eyre, it appeared that he visited defendant's premises on the day named and asked to be allowed to see the explosives in his possession. The defendant showed him a tin box containing 38 lbs. of gunpowder, which was in a store at the back of his

premises. He spoke to defendant about his register, and he said he was very sorry, but he had omitted to get registered. The Superintendent thought it was an oversight on defendant's part, and on those conditions he did not wish to press for the gunpowder to be forfeited, neither did he wish to press the case. The gunpowder had been properly stored.

In reply to the Bench, the Magistrate's Clerk said the registration was annual.

The defendant pleaded that it was simply a lapse of memory on his part, and had he been notified that his registration had run out he would have given it his attention.

The Chairman said the defendant had laid himself open to a penalty of 2*s.* per lb., and the gunpowder to be forfeited, and tradesmen in the locality must see that they are registered for the sale of explosives at the proper time. Defendant would be fined 28*s.* 6*d.*, including costs.

The defendant remarked that he thought it was a shame he should be fined after having sold gunpowder for upwards of thirty years.

At the same court, William Fletcher, of South Normanton, was summoned for keeping 12 lbs. of gunpowder on his premises on November 21, without being registered. The case was proved by Superintendent Eyre, who said defendant had omitted to renew his registration. The defendant was fined 19*s.* 6*d.*, including costs.

Luke Evans, grocer, Greenhill Lane, Riddings, was summoned at the same court for having 53 lbs. of gunpowder on his premises, without being registered to keep the same. This case was also proved by Superintendent Eyre, and in defence it was stated by defendant that he thought it was a case of "once registered, always registered." He had not the slightest idea that the registration had to be renewed every year. Defendant was fined 1*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, including costs.

#### PROSECUTION OF A WIDOW UNDER THE IRISH PHARMACY ACT.

AT the Waterford Petty Sessions on Friday (before the Mayor, Messrs. Slattery, and Nelson), Mrs. Mary Poole, the widow of a chemist and druggist, who keeps an establishment at the corner of Lady Lane, was prosecuted by the Crown, under the Pharmacy Act, for compounding medical prescriptions without being duly qualified to do so.

Evidence was heard as to the dispensing of the prescription, which was taken to the defendant's shop by a lad. Sergeant Riordan stated that the prescription was one written by a medical man. The Sergeant was about to produce the list of qualified chemists, &c., with a view to showing that Mrs. Poole's name did not appear in it, when Mr. Thornton objected to its being made evidence.

Head Constable Elders held that it was evidence under the 24th section of the Act, which allowed of a certified copy of the registered list being produced.

The Bench overruled the objection.

Sergeant Riordan: I may tell your Worships that complaints have been made about this by the medical gentlemen themselves in the city of Waterford.

Mr. Thornton: I don't think you have a right to say that at all.

Sergeant Riordan: If their Worships—

Mr. Thornton: This is not evidence, and it ought not to be heard.

The Bench decided not to admit the statement.

Mr. Thornton addressed the Bench, and quoted sections 30 and 38 of the Pharmacy Act, under which he held his client was entitled to practise. Persons registered under the Pharmacy Act are entitled to compound medicines, and no person has power to compound medical prescriptions unless thereby registered as a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist.

Sergeant Riordan: I beg your pardon; she is not registered as either a pharmaceutical chemist or a chemist or druggist.

Mr. Thornton: I would ask you not to forget that you are looking at the list and I am looking at the Act of Parliament. Having quoted some further sections, Mr. Thornton produced a document and said: "This is a certificate of Mr. Poole's. It is a certificate of competency."

[The certificate entitled him to carry on business as "chemist and druggist."]

Head Constable Elders: That does not give him authority to compound medicines.

Mr. Thornton, continuing, said they were aware that on Mr. Poole's death they should have a qualified person to carry on the business, and he produced a similar certificate on behalf of Mr. Henry Hamilton. They were quite aware that the law should be complied with, and they had done their best to do so.

Head Constable Elders said Mr. Poole never had authority to compound medicines.

The Mayor: I think that as a chemist and druggist he is entitled to dispense medicines.

The Head Constable corrected the Mayor, and after some further argument, in the course of which it was stated that before his death Mr. Poole had been cautioned not to dispense prescriptions, and that there was a second charge against the defendant for selling poisons, the Mayor announced that the Bench would impose the penalty of 5*l.* in regard to the compounding. From the manner in which the case had been put before them, he said it appeared that defendant had endeavoured to carry out the law, and they would recommend a mitigation of the penalty.

#### CASES UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

At the West London Police Court, on Friday, Mr. A. C. Plowden heard a summons against a grocer of Fulham Road, charging him with selling as cocoa a mixture containing 43 parts of starch and sugar.

The Sanitary Inspector who bought the cocoa said he asked for half a pound of cocoa. The assistant in the shop said, "We only have it in packets," and witness replied, "I don't care what it is in, so long as it is cocoa." Mr. Beck, who defended, said he was instructed that the inspector pointed to a packet of Epps's cocoa, and said, "I will have that." On the label of the packet were printed prominently the words "Prepared Cocoa," and also the words "For ingredients see the side." He should contend that under the Act that was sufficient notice to the purchaser that the article was a mixture, and that it was a sufficient protection to the defendant in that case. What the analyst described as starch was the best West Indian arrowroot. The pure cocoa-nib was of such a character that it was almost impossible to use it for ordinary purposes. It was so very hard, and contained such a large amount of cocoa-butter, that the only way to make it palatable was to put it through the process Messrs. Epps & Co. adopted. The arrowroot and sugar were put in not for the purpose of increasing the bulk, but only so much was put in as served to keep the cocoa in a state of suspension when used.

Mr. W. B. Beckett, a representative of Messrs. James Epps & Co., was called, and supported on oath the statements made by Mr. Beck.

Mr. Blanco White, for the prosecution, urged that the decisions of the Courts in respect to mixtures of coffee and chicory applied in this case.

Mr. Plowden was of opinion that the packet completely fell within section 10 of the Act, and that no fraud, or anything like fraud, had been perpetrated. He thought this case was quite distinguishable from the cases as to the mixture of coffee and chicory which had been mentioned, because coffee actually required nothing to be added to it, although some might prefer a mixture of chicory; while, as he understood, in that case the article was improved by the addition of sugar and starch, and there would not be the demand or sale for it if the addition was not made. On the face of the packet the public was told what it got, and there could be no deception.

The summons was dismissed.

At Worship Street Police Court, on Monday, a dairyman was summoned by the sanitary authority of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, for selling adulterated milk. The vestry clerk of the parish prosecuted; and Mr. Ricketts, solicitor, of King's Cross, defended. The Sanitary Inspector said he repeated to the seller the words of the Act as to the object of the purchase and as to his intention to send the article to the public analyst. He then proceeded to divide the milk into three parts, leaving one part with the seller, delivering one to the analyst, and keeping one for production. Mr. Ricketts, in cross-examination, elicited the fact that the wit-

ness did not "offer" to divide the article, but simply handed the seller one part after having divided it. Mr. Ricketts submitted that that was not a compliance with the Act, the 14th section of which said that there should be an "offer to divide," and the 15th section that, if the offer had not been accepted by the seller or his agent, the analyst was to divide into two parts. He further argued that, as the 14th section directed certain things to be done by the purchaser "if required" by the seller, the intention of the Act that the seller should have an option of division was clear. Mr. Bushby said the evidence disclosed an irregularity, and the contention was a good one. He dismissed the summons, but consented to state a case on the point of law. Two other summonses were also dismissed on the same technicality.

#### Next Week.

*Secretaries of Associations and Societies should give the Editor post-card notice of meetings to be held, and the business to be transacted thereat, by Wednesday of the week before.*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 5.**—*Society of Chemical Industry* (London Section), *Chemical Society's Rooms, Burlington House*, at 8 P.M. Papers: (1) "A New Form of Filter-press for Laboratory Use," by Mr. C. C. Hutchinson; (2) "The Production of Acetic Acid from the Carbohydrates," by Messrs. Cross and Bevan; (3) "Electrolytic Soda and Chlorine: the Present Aspects of the Question," by Messrs. Cross and Bevan.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6.**—*Cambridge Chemists' Assistants' meeting.* Mr. E. J. King on "Coal-gas."

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6.**—*Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland*, 67 *Lower Mount Street, Dublin* at 8 P.M. Dr. E. MacDowel Cosgrave will lecture on "The Nerves: their Use and Abuse."

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7.**—*Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.*, at 8 P.M. Mr. James Dredge on "The Chicago Exhibition, 1893."

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7.**—*Brighton Junior Association of Pharmacy*, 1 *Sillwood Terrace*, at 8.45 P.M. Mr. C. G. Yates on "Seven Modern Wonders."

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7.**—*Edinburgh Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association*, at 9.15 P.M. Short papers by members, and Mr. Donald McEwan will exhibit and describe recent additions to the Herbarium.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8.**—*Chemists' Assistants' Association*, 103 *Great Russell Street, W.C.*, at 9 P.M. Dr. Lander Brunton, F.R.S., on "Impurities and Mistakes."

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8.**—*Liverpool Pharmaceutical Students' Association*, at 8.30 P.M. Mr. R. H. Mitchell on "Pharmaceutical Apprenticeship."

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8.**—*Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association.* Discussion on Mr. C. Thompson's territorial scheme of Pharmaceutical Council representation.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8.**—*Midland Counties Chemists' Association*, *Mason College, Birmingham*, at 8.15 P.M. Paper by Mr. H. S. Lawton, and "Notes on a Pharmacopoeia dated 1720," Mr. G. E. Perry.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9.**—*Edinburgh Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association and The Pharmacy Athletic Club.* Annual assembly in Literary Institute, South Clerk Street, at 9.30 P.M.

**TYPE-RIBBON INK.**—The Diamond Dye people state that this can be made as follows:—Heat 1 oz. of glycerine to boiling-point, and add to it slowly, stirring constantly, one package diamond-dye violet. When cold it is ready for use. For type-writer ribbons apply with an old toothbrush, wipe off the surplus ink with a cloth, and they are ready for use. Green, purple, light blue, and magenta dyes can also be used for this purpose.

## The Winter Session.

### LIVERPOOL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE fifth general meeting of the Liverpool Chemists' Association, which was appointed for Thursday evening, November 24, was adjourned for a fortnight on account of the death of the president, Mr. J. S. Ward, F.C.S., which took place on the previous night, after a long illness.

A special council meeting of the Liverpool Chemists' Association was held at the Royal Institution, Liverpool, on November 29. Mr. SYMES in very sympathetic and appreciative language referred to the labours of the late Mr. J. S. Ward in connection with the Society, and moved that a vote of condolence be passed and sent to Mrs. Ward, and that a subscription-list be opened for the purpose of erecting a monument expressive of the esteem in which Mr. Ward was held by them. This was passed unanimously. Mr. William Wellings, of 56 Hanover Street, was appointed treasurer, and he will be glad to receive subscriptions from friends and old students.

Mr. Joshua Hocken was elected President for the rest of this and the ensuing session. Mr. J. T. Smith, of Walton, was elected Vice-President to succeed Mr. Hocken.

### GLASGOW PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

#### INTERESTING PROPOSALS.

The Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association met on Thursday, November 24, when Mr. John McMillan presided over a crowded meeting. After a few congratulatory remarks from the Chair on the happy auspices under which the Association was being inaugurated,

#### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

was delivered by Mr. W. L. CURRIE, Downhill. Mr. Currie said it was his intention to enlarge upon some of the questions at present agitating the pharmaceutical world, in the hope that his ideas might be of some service in getting up enthusiasm. He reminded the Association that their name was not a thing of yesterday's date. They were a very ancient society. The old Chemists' and Druggists' Association had a long history, and did some telling work. It originated in 1854. In its early days classes were formed and were largely taken advantage of, and with excellent results. He regretted that there was not now any school of pharmacy, self-supporting or otherwise; and in Glasgow, in the second city of the Empire, students who desire to qualify are left to pick up their knowledge in any way they think best. True, there were the classes carried on most successfully by Dr. Lees, but they should aim at having a more extended course of training, not merely going over the work supposed to be necessary for passing an examination. It is the want of systematic training that accounts for so many unqualified men being in our midst. He considered that the examinations as at present conducted were none too severe. They must keep abreast of the education of the time. They must associate, and he advocated at great length association with the Pharmaceutical Society. He urged that the Council of the Society should be elected in a different manner from that which is now adopted. The spirit of the times demands a more intimate knowledge of those who represent us. The country should be divided into sections, each section electing a representative. By such means a truer representation would be returned. That chemists' interests require looking after is evident. The anomalous position of limited companies in regard to pharmacy was discussed, and Mr. Currie said that in Glasgow another evil is the extraordinary number of shops owned by doctors, which are carried on in the majority of cases by mere lads or girls. And more serious still is the glaring fact that there are a great number of shops owned by unqualified men, who do not even carry on their businesses by the aid of qualified assistants. After commenting on the patent-medicine business, the President concluded by considering what the Association lately formed should do. He hoped

they might soon have rooms of their own, which should be made attractive by having them fitted up with specimens of crude drugs and finished products, along with new remedies and special products. He would further like to see the library in connection with the Association greatly increased, and then largely taken advantage of; and as regards the work of the session, it was expected that once a month they would be able to secure the services of some well-known gentleman who would give an interesting lecture, but the intervening nights would have to be filled up, and the members themselves would be looked to for this part of the work. The pleasure and happiness of life depended upon taking an active part in its work, and he appealed to them, therefore, to keep alive the enthusiasm which had been kindled.

In the discussion which followed the President's address,

Mr. LAING said the conditions of pharmacy in Glasgow, he thought, were as bad as they possibly could be, but he thought they were on the up grade. He was glad to perceive that all over the country there was a strong feeling arising that chemists should assert themselves as a distinct profession. Seeing that they had to undergo an examination not only for the privilege of selling poisons—which was no privilege at all, but an onerous duty—but to deal in drugs, he thought they should make a strong effort to reserve to themselves all the rights and privileges of dealing in drugs. The sale of patent medicines he would like to see banished from their midst altogether.

Mr. THOMAS DAVIDSON would abolish the patent-medicine licence altogether, and the loss thereby caused to the revenue might be met by a tax upon druggists for selling drugs pure and simple. With 15,000 druggists on the register the deficiency could be made up without much inconvenience to individual traders. As to doctors keeping open-shop, he maintained that in order to do so they should have qualified assistants. Then, as to the limited liability companies, the responsibility should rest not upon the unqualified assistants, but upon the companies. (Hear, hear.) His impression was that the Pharmaceutical Society did not take sufficient interest in these matters.

Mr. MOIR was quite at one with the President regarding the necessity for a thorough educational course, but before they got that they must have the trade on a better basis than it was at present. He was one of those who had never joined the Pharmaceutical Society—"Shame!"—because he could not see what the Society had done for them. He would like, before he paid his guinea, to see the Pharmaceutical Society on a better basis. And he did not know but that the basis Mr. Currie proposed—the election of district representatives—would be a good one.

After some more discussion,

Mr. JOHN McMILLAN, as chairman of the evening, closed the discussion. In the course of his remarks he said that in his opinion druggists should not discard patent medicines; they heard no word about discarding them so long as they got 1s. 1½d. for them. (Laughter.) Somebody must sell the proprietary medicines, and it seemed to him that that was a branch of business which lay naturally to the hands of the chemists. He expected that a good many druggists in little country districts got a large proportion of their profits off the sale of proprietary medicines. What the trade should do was to try, if possible, to get better prices for those articles. They wanted a united front to press their demands, and he contended that the best way to obtain that was through the Pharmaceutical Society, which he would like every one to join.

On the motion of the Chairman, Mr. Currie was warmly thanked for his interesting address.

Mr. CURRIE then handed to the members copies of an address delivered on November 3 to the Midland Counties Chemists' Association by Mr. Charles Thompson, detailing a scheme for the more thorough organisation of the Pharmaceutical Society in the provinces. It was agreed to have the scheme discussed at the next fortnightly meeting, to be held on Thursday next week.

### EDINBURGH CHEMISTS', ASSISTANTS', AND APPRENTICES' ASSOCIATION.

MR. W. B. COWIE took the chair for the first time as President, on Thursday evening of last week, and appropriately

addressed his fellow-members in regard to the advantages of meeting together. Thereafter a note was read on

#### A SUBSTITUTE FOR LINIMENT AND OINTMENT OF POTASSIUM IODIDE.

By — LYON.

The author has been working with the object of providing a formula which will meet the requirements of prescribers, the object kept in view being to combine the iodide with a basis from which it may readily be absorbed. According to Bohn lanoline is the most suitable basis when local action only is required, and Luff states that when absorption of the active ingredient is the thing aimed at vaseline is the best basis. These statements are contradictory, Mr. Lyon said, but he thought the way out of the difficulty was to use equal parts of vaseline and lanoline. He tried that, dissolving the iodide in water, but the ointment decomposed. However, the addition of glycerine would, he thought, prevent decomposition, so he submitted the following formula:—

Iodide of potassium	..	..	60 parts
Distilled water	..	..	60 fluid parts
Glycerine	..	..	60 "
Lanoline	..	..	110 parts
Vaseline	..	..	110 "

Melt the lanoline and vaseline together in a warm mortar, and stir until cold. Dissolve the iodide in the water, add the glycerine, and incorporate it with the base by trituration.

Mr. DUNCAN did not think this preparation would make a suitable substitute for the official liniment, which was a non-greasy preparation. Luff's experiments on the dead subject could hardly be accepted as conclusive, and he thought lanoline was far and away the best basis when absorption was desired. Any prescriber wishing the general action of potassium iodide would prescribe it by the mouth.

The discussion was continued by Messrs. COWIE, HILL, and McEWAN. The author in replying, said that Dr. Bohn and Dr. Luff agreed in saying that absorption did not take place when lanoline was used as a basis. The reason for applying potassium iodide externally when its general action was desired was that with some patients even small doses caused irritation when administered by the mouth. Then followed some

#### NOTES ON INCOMPATIBLE MIXTURES.

By HUGH KERR.

The first mixture referred to belonged to the familiar class of preparations of cinchona with alkaline iodides. It was as follows:—

Hydrarg. subchlor.	..	..	gr. j.
Sodii iodidi	..	..	3ij.
Tinct. cinchonæ	..	..	3iiss.
Aquam ad	..	..	vj.

M.

The author assumed that perchloride of mercury was intended. If dispensed with that modification, the whole of the cinchona alkaloids, as well as the mercury, are thrown down in the form of a bulky and unsightly precipitate. The addition of mucilage was found serviceable to a certain extent in suspending the precipitate long enough to allow a dose to be taken, but on account of the tincture it was anything but satisfactory. The precipitate was soluble in rectified spirit, and, taking advantage of this, the author found that the following method gave a perfectly bright and satisfactory mixture:—Dissolve the sodium iodide and mercuric chloride in 2 fluid drachms of water, add the tincture of cinchona and sufficient water to make 3 fl. oz. Mark the dose one-half of that in the prescription. The President of the London Assistants' Association recently urged the necessity for the study of incompatibilities by medical practitioners. Mr. Kerr gave two recent examples in support of this, viz.:—

Tinct. guaiaci ammon.	..	..	3ij.
Mucilag. acaciæ	..	..	3ij.
Quin. sulph.	..	..	gr. viij.
Acid. sulph. dil.	..	..	3iv.
Potass. bicarb.	..	..	5j.
Aquam ad	..	..	3iv.

This may be taken as an utterly hopeless instance of incom-

patibility, and, however manipulated, nothing but a nasty looking mess can be obtained:—

Liq. strychninæ hydrochlor.	..	..	℥c.
" arsenicalis	..	..	℥xx.
" potassæ	..	..	3ij.
Aquam ad	..	..	3iij.

This looks almost hopeless. If dispensed as written, the strychnine very soon separates out in the form of fine small, shining crystals. Martindale states that strychnine is soluble in about 400 parts of proof spirit. Acting on this statement, the mixture was dispensed with proof spirit in place of the water; but it was found that after a time, especially if exposed to cold, there was a slight separation of strychnine crystals. Ultimately it was found that if dispensed according to the following formula, the strychnine is retained in solution:—

Liq. strychninæ hydrochlor.	..	..	℥c.
" arsenicalis	..	..	℥xx.
" potassæ	..	..	3ij.
Spirit. vini rect.	..	..	3ij.
Aquam ad	..	..	3iij.

As the dose is one teaspoonful, there is no objection to this modification. The separation of crystals when proof spirit was used raises a doubt as to the correctness of the statement that strychnine is soluble in 400 parts of that menstruum. On referring to published authorities as to the solubility of the alkaloid, the following discrepant statements were found:—In water: Squire, 1 in 5,760; Martindale, about 1 in 6,000; U.S. Dispensatory, 1 in 6,700. In rectified spirit: Sp. gr. 0.833, Squire, 1 in 140; sp. gr. 0.920, Squire and Martindale, 1 in 400; sp. gr. 0.820, U.S. Dispensatory, 1 in 110. It is evident that there is here a subject for further investigation.

It would be useful, continued the author, to have some authoritative opinion as to the admissibility of adding mucilage to a mixture when it would give the patient the chance of a more uniform dose, or in lotions, &c., where decomposition occurs with formation of a precipitate. For instance, should it be added when sulphate of quinine and acid infusion of roses are prescribed together, or when acetate of lead and the above infusion are ordered as a lotion? Both of the foregoing have recently appeared as part of the practical work in the Minor examination, and have given rise to difficulty. On putting the question as to the latter to three registered chemists, the first one said he would explain to the examiner the nature of the reaction that would take place, and ask if he would omit the acid from the infusion, as the sulphate was the most inert salt of lead; the second said he would have no hesitation in adding mucilage; and the third said he would have dispensed it as it stood.

The CHAIRMAN said if the first prescription were dispensed as written there would be a precipitate of metallic mercury, as one-half of the mercury in the calomel would be set free, the other half going to form the double iodide of sodium and mercury, which dissolved.

Mr. LYON said he had seen it stated recently that in alcoholic soda solution strychnine was decomposed, with formation of strychnic acid or strychnol. A similar decomposition might take place in the last mixture, even though it remained bright. He also thought it was objectionable to have mucilage in any lotion.

Mr. HILL suggested that in many cases glycerine could be used with advantage as a suspending agent in place of mucilage. The discussion was continued by Messrs. DUNCAN and McEWAN.

Mr. RUTHERFORD HILL then exhibited under the microscope and described living specimens of *Protococcus pluvialis* (motile), *Volvox globator*, and *Nitella flexilis*, the latter showing cyclosis of the protoplasm.

#### DUNDEE CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

AN illustrated lecture was given by Mr. J. LAIDLAW EWING on Thursday, November 24, on "A Holiday Trip to Russia, Finland, and Sweden." This is the lecture which proved so successful in Edinburgh at the beginning of this year. A pretty central hall was taken for the occasion, and it was comfortably filled with an audience of about three hundred.

Mr. Ewing is an admirable lecturer, and those who were fortunate enough to secure tickets of admission were highly delighted. The slides were manipulated, to a large extent, by Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, to whose arrangements much of the success of the meeting was really due. Mr. Kerr presided, and at the close Mr. Ewing was enthusiastically thanked.

#### CAMBRIDGE ASSISTANTS' MEETING.

MR. E. S. PECK read a paper on "Alchemy" to a very good gathering of assistants and apprentices on Thursday evening, November 24. Mr. H. D. Fuge presided. The paper delighted the members greatly, and much interest was added to the lecture by the free display of lantern-slides illustrating the chief items. Dr. Kimmins lent the slides, Mr. Percy W. Salmon the lantern, and Baron von Hügel exhibited some antique specimens of mortars and other implements used in the ancient science.

### Bankruptcy Reports.

*Re* FRANK NORTHCOTT, 13 Rood Lane, E.C., trading as Northcott & Sons, Chemical Brokers.

THIS bankrupt applied to Mr. Registrar Brougham, sitting at the London Bankruptcy Court on Friday, November 25, for an order of discharge.

Mr. E. Leadem Hough, Official Receiver, reported that the bankrupt filed his own petition on September 7, and returned his ranking liabilities at 2,620*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* Proofs had been made by seven creditors for sums amounting to 1,695*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*; the assets, which had been valued by the bankrupt at 114*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, had as yet realised 55*l.* 4*s.*, and only a further 5*l.* could be expected. The business was established many years ago by the bankrupt's father. In 1875, when the bankrupt attained his majority, he and his brother were admitted into partnership by their father, the business being subsequently carried on at Rood Lane, under the style of Northcott & Sons. Mr. Northcott, sen., died in 1880. Under the articles of partnership, his capital (which was then ascertained to amount to 1,500*l.*) became a debt payable by the surviving partners to their mother, who was also entitled, under the articles, to receive from the business an annuity of 500*l.*, until the expiration of twenty-one years from the commencement of the partnership. The bankrupt and his brother for a few years paid the annuity with interest upon the capital, but no part of the capital was repaid, nor were they able to keep up the payment of the interest. In 1886 they made an arrangement with their creditors, who accepted a composition of 1*s.* 9*d.* in the pound, but the partners had to borrow about 150*l.* in order to complete the arrangement. They continued business together until June, 1890, when the brother retired from the firm. The bankrupt had admitted that he had been aware of his insolvency since 1887. He attributed his failure to lack of capital and want of business, and especially to heavy losses incurred in 1887. The profits of the business during the last three years and a half had amounted to 1,460*l.*, whilst the bankrupt had drawn 1,612*l.* during the same period. In December 1887, the firm entered into a contract for the delivery abroad of 10 tons of tin. Owing to a rise in the market, the transaction resulted in a loss of 500*l.* Mr. Hough submitted that under the circumstances this speculation was rash and hazardous. The offences alleged against the bankrupt were (1) that the assets were not equal in value to 10*s.* in the pound upon the unsecured indebtedness; (2) that the bankrupt had traded with a knowledge of insolvency; (3) that he had contributed to his bankruptcy by rash and hazardous speculation; and (4) that he had on a previous occasion made an arrangement with his creditors.

The learned Registrar, in summing up, stated that he was of opinion that justice would be met by a suspension of two years and six months from that date; and an order was entered accordingly.

*Re* ROBERT HARDY, 23 Fenchurch Street, E.C., late of 27 Great Tower Street, E.C., Chemist and Druggist.

THIS debtor filed his petition at the London Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday last, and upon the application of Messrs. Sweetland & Greenhall, solicitors to the proceedings, the usual receiving order was made by Mr. Registrar Brougham. The debtor states that he sold his Great Tower Street business about eight months ago. The premises in Fenchurch Street are held on a lease having twelve years to run at an annual rental of 1,000*l.* The lease is mortgaged for 50*l.*, and the rent being in arrear to the extent of 130*l.*, the landlord has entered into possession. The assets include: Stock, 1,000*l.*; book-debts, 70*l.*; and the fixtures, fittings and utensils. The takings average 60*l.* to 70*l.* weekly, and the premises were partly let off at rents amounting to 706*l.* per annum. The debtor further states that he resides at 28 Camden Square. The rent is 52*l.* per annum; two quarters are in arrear; and the sheriff is in possession at the suit of creditors. He values his household furniture at 30*l.*, the remainder of the furniture in the house belonging to his sister, who obtained it partly by purchase and partly by a gift from her father.

### Gazette.

#### PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Anderton & Halliwell, Halifax, veterinary surgeons.

Dicketts, W., jun., and Petrie, J., jun., under the style of Dicketts-Petrie & Co., Mining Lane, City, chemical merchants.

Prentice, E. C., Prentice, M., and Evans, H. B., under the style of Prentice Brothers, Stowmarket, manufacturing chemists, and manufacturers of chemical and other manures.

#### THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1833 AND 1890.

##### RECEIVING ORDERS.

Gray, George, Claylands Road, Clapham Road, S.W., veterinary surgeon.

Ponsford, Alfred, Newton Abbot, mineral-water manufacturer.

##### ADJUDICATIONS.

Gray, George, Claylands Road, Clapham Road, S.W., veterinary surgeon.

Mackenzie, William James, Holloway Road, N., doctor of medicine.

Ponsford, Alfred, Newton Abbot, mineral-water manufacturer.

##### ORDERS MADE ON APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE.

Comer, Frank, Hereford Square, South Kensington, late Queen's Gate, South Kensington, dentist—discharge suspended for two years, ending November 3 1894.

Spencer, Robert, Birmingham, chemist—discharge granted conditionally.

#### DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

Mannifield, William, 79 Nottingham Street, Sheffield, chemist and druggist. Trustee: James E. Bartlett, Sheffield (accountant.) Dated, November 18; filed, November 24. Unsecured liabilities 229*l.* 11*s.*; estimated net assets, 119*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Bleasdale & Co., York .. .. .	15	0	0
Bourne, Johnson & Latimer, London .. .. .	42	6	6
Harrison & Wade, Leeds .. .. .	13	14	3
Jay, J. R., London .. .. .	10	19	6
Manningfield, J. J., Sheffield .. .. .	16	0	0
Mason, W. B., Leeds .. .. .	49	6	8
Sissons Bros. & Co., Hull .. .. .	15	7	0

Thompson, John Thomas, The Market Place and Barge, Richmond, Chemist. Trustee: John Procter, Richmond (accountant), with a committee of inspection. Dated, November 24; filed, November 26. Unsecured liabilities, 1,600*l.*; estimated net assets, 1,320*l.*; creditors fully secured, 400*l.* (No amounts given in schedule of creditors.)

## Trade Notes.

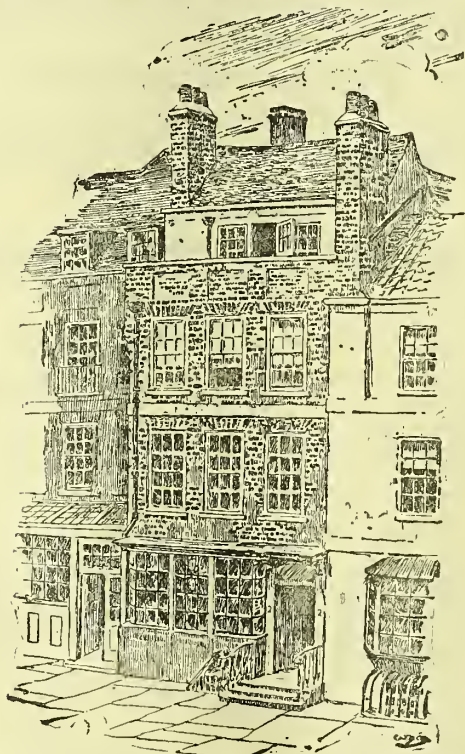
A GOLD MEDAL and diploma of honour have been awarded to Mr. Thomas Critchley, of Blackburn, for his starch-gloss, at the Isle of Man Exhibition.

MESSRS. SHIRLEY BROS., of 105 Whitecross Street, E.C., are at present making an attractive display of goods suitable for Christmas trade, and give in their page this week some examples of what they can do.

MESSRS. LAUGHLAND, MACKAY & BAKER, 50 Lime Street, E.C., are introducing to the trade the "Kangaroo" brand of eucalyptus oil. This is one of the oils which have the fragrant odour sought after by many. It comes from South Australia, we understand, and as soon as we have had an opportunity of examining it more critically than we have done, we may have something more to say of it.

BI-PALATINOLIDS IN U.S.A.—The right to manufacture hipalatinoids in the United States has been purchased by Messrs. McKesson & Robbins, of New York, Mr. William Oppenheimer, who has just returned from his visit there, having sold to the firm the patent rights for the States. Messrs. McKesson & Robbins have built a factory for the palatinoid business, and they propose working it on an extensive scale, Bland's pills, for which there is an immense demand in the States, being specially in their view.

An interesting article is published in the December issue of the *English Illustrated Magazine* on "An Historic Pharmacy." It is written by Mr. Joseph Hatton, and attractively illustrated by Mr. W. H. Margetson, and refers to the Plough Court and Bethnal Green establishments of Messrs. Allen & Hanburys. Both article and illustrations follow pretty closely on the lines of a descriptive sketch



published in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST in January, 1890, but many details of the early history of the firm have been incorporated, which lend to the record a particular interest. The fact that the Plough Court pharmacy stands on the site of the old London house in which the poet Pope was born gives the opportunity for the introduction of a drawing of the old house, which Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have kindly allowed us to reproduce; and the story of William Allen's

philanthropic and public labours is told at some length. The manufacture of bynia, of jujubes, and of tabelæ is described at some length, and the illustrations are admirable.

THE ST. JACOBS OIL ALMANACK FOR 1893, which is now being distributed by the Charles A. Vogeler Company, is a compilation of particular use in seaport towns. Mr. Geddes says that in order to make it of service to the public who live along the coast he has called to his aid "a gentleman who has made the compiling of almanacks a study for more than a quarter of a century, a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society of England, whose astronomical researches have been more extended than those of almost any other living man, whose forecast of the weather can be relied upon with almost an absolute certainty." It gives in tabular form all details of the sun's and moon's rising and setting at London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, and the time of high water at London, Liverpool, Cardiff, Hull, Glasgow, Leith, Cork, Harwich, Dublin, Bristol, Sunderland, Greenock, Dundee, and Cape Clear, for every day in the year. The other contents mostly refer to the medicines manufactured by the company.

## MARRIAGE.

*[Notices of Marriages and Deaths are inserted free if sent with proper authentication.]*

PIRIE—BURN.—At the Cathedral, Shanghai, on November 26, William Pirie, L.R.C.S. and P. Edin., medical missionary, l'Chang, to Jane Hood, daughter of Mr. David H. Burn, chemist, Arbroath. (By cablegram) Mr. Pirie is a pharmaceutical chemist, and an ex-Secretary of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.

## DEATHS.

CASTHELAZ.—On November 24, M. John Casthelaz, pharmacien of the first class and chemical manufacturer, died at his residence in Paris, 19 Rue Sainte-Croix de-la-Bretonnerie. Aged 63 years.

CHAPMAN.—The death has occurred of Mr. John Chapman, chemist and druggist, Ripon, at the age of 80. Deceased, who was the oldest tradesman in the city, acted for many years as registrar of births, deaths, and marriages.

HALPIN.—On November 11, Richard Halpin, chemist and druggist, late Coventry. Aged 29.

HAYSWORTH.—On November 12, W. Stone Haysworth, chemist and druggist, Preston. Aged 30.

McKIM.—On November 19, James McKim, chemist and druggist, Glasgow. Aged 84.

METCALFE.—On November 22, at Highgate, Kendal, Mr. John Sykes Metcalfe, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 54. Mr. Metcalfe was apprenticed to a chemist at Preston, and began business in Kendal in 1862. The deceased gentleman leaves a widow and a son and daughter.

NARRACOTT.—On November 13, Henry Narracott, chemist and druggist, Paignton. Aged 73.

WILLIAMS.—At Neesdon, on November 28, Mr. W. Mattieu Williams, F.C.S., in his 72nd year. Mr. Williams was a few years ago a popular writer on scientific subjects. "The Fuel of the Sun" and "Science in Short Chapters" were two of his best-known works. He was a friend of Mr. George Combe, the phrenologist, and at one time was actively engaged in promoting his doctrines.

THE REV. LEONARD BLOMEFIELD joined the Linnean Society on November 19, 1822, and is now the oldest living Fellow of the Society, which fact was recognised by the Society in an address of congratulation presented to Mr. Blomefield at the last meeting.

MR. A. E. HORRELL (Messrs. Horrell & Goff, chemists, 34 and 36 High Street, Dartford) has resigned his seat as a member of the Dartford Local Board of Health. The letter conveying the resignation was dated from Everleigh House, Park Road, Hastings, and stated that Mr. Horrell found himself unable to attend to the duties incumbent on a member of the Board.

## Practical Notes and Formulae.

### TOOTHACHE-REMEDIES.

1.				3.			
Oil of cajuput ..	..	..	3j.	Oil of cloves ..	..	..	3j.
„ cloves ..	..	..	3j.	Tincture of Indian hemp ..	..	..	3j.
Chloroform ..	..	..	3ij.	Chloroform ..	..	..	3j.
M.				M.			
2.				4.			
Camphor ..	..	..	3ij.	Oil of peppermint ..	..	..	3j.
Chloral hydrate ..	..	..	3ij.	Spirit of ether ..	..	..	3j.
Essence of peppermint to ..	..	..	3ss.	Tincture of opium ..	..	..	3j.
Liquefy the solids by rubbing, and make up to the $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.				M.			

—*Apotheker Zeitung.*

### HOW TO MAKE INSECT-POWDER.

MR. E. SOXHLET tells the *Droqisten Zeitung* how to make insect-powder "synthetically," to use a scientific expression. His process is embodied in the following formula:—

Powdered oak-bark ..	..	..	..	40 oz.
„ wormwood ..	..	..	..	40 "
„ chamomile ..	..	..	..	40 "
„ turmeric ..	..	..	..	10 "
„ starch ..	..	..	..	30 "
Oil of angelica ..	..	..	..	℥℥xxx.
Eucalyptus oil ..	..	..	..	℥℥xxx.
Oil of chamomile ..	..	..	..	℥℥xxx.
„ wormwood ..	..	..	..	℥℥xxx.
„ hay-leaves ..	..	..	..	℥iiss.
„ cajuput ..	..	..	..	℥iiss.
„ hyssop ..	..	..	..	℥xlv.
„ tansy ..	..	..	..	℥ss.
Spirit ..	..	..	..	℥v.

Mix the powders well; dissolve the oils in the spirit and incorporate with the powder. Sift, and dry by air-exposure.

### TAPEWORM PILLS.

MR. C. DUMMER submitted the following formula at the last meeting of the Nebraska Pharmaceutical Association (*West. Drug.*):—

	Grains
Extract of male fern ..	.. 30
Asafetida ..	.. 15
Aloes ..	.. 7½
Cacao butter ..	.. 30
Kaolin, sifted ..	.. 80

Make into 15 pills.

This gives a good plastic mass which can easily be rolled and formed into pills by the aid of some kaolin. First, the aloes and asafetida are rubbed together in a mortar as fine as possible; next, one-half of the kaolin is added, and all are rubbed together to a uniform powder; finally, the rest of the kaolin is added and the oil of male fern and cacao butter. Let the pills cool a few hours, and then give them two coats of cacao butter in order to protect them against the influence of the ammonia in the keratin solution which should now be applied as a coating. In regard to the use of the pills the author says: "Regulate the bowels before beginning the cure. In the morning take a breakfast consisting of a cup of coffee, without milk, and a roll with plenty of butter. Fifteen minutes after take the fifteen pills one by one; wash them down with some water. Wait five hours and keep in motion. If the bowels do not move during that time, take a dose of Epsom salts in a cup of hot water, and follow with another one after an hour, if necessary." The pills have never been known to fail when properly and recently made

### HOW TO COAT WITH KERATIN.

THE plan which Mr. Dummer uses for coating the above-mentioned tapeworm pills with keratin was as follows, the solution used being the ammoniacal and not the acetic-acid one:—In the centre of an evaporating-dish of 1 gallon capacity, place about 15 grains of cacao butter and warm the dish by the point of an alcohol flame just beneath the cacao butter. When melted, spread it on a somewhat larger

surface, put the pills into it and roll them briskly for a second. This is sufficient to coat 15 pills. Next throw the pills against the outer cool part of the dish and there roll them around, always avoiding the warm centre, till they cease to stick to each other, and then put them in another dish. After an hour or two, when the coat is perfectly hard give them a second coat. Next fix the pills to the points of long, slender needles, which make very small holes only, and fasten the other end in flat corks, or a small, round piece of soft wood. It is necessary to keep the needles at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch apart. The keratin solution is poured into a saucer or other vessel with flat bottom. If a small quantity only of solution is in stock, use three corks with five pills each, and pour the solution in a small tin ointment-box. When the excess of liquid has dropped from the pills, swing and turn them in all directions so that the liquid remains evenly distributed over the whole surface all the time and is not allowed to dry on one place leaving others uncovered. This requires a good deal of patience, inasmuch as from four to eight coats are necessary. Before a new coat is put on, the previous one must be perfectly dry. Finally the pills are rolled in lycopodium or very fine sugar, and dispensed in a bottle.

### HOW TO TEST KERATIN-COATED PILLS.

ALONG with the tapeworm pills, make four or five test-pills—that is, 1 grain calcium sulphide with cacao butter as an excipient. After applying four coats, take one of these pills, and if it fails to produce eructation of sulphuretted hydrogen within two or three hours your coating is good; otherwise give one more coat, and try again.

### SHOW-BOTTLE COLOURS.

MR ROWLAND W. GRAVES, Ph.G., informs the *Pharmaceutical Record* that he has used the following formulæ for eight years with perfect success. The colours are cheap, brilliant, and lasting:—

#### Crimson.

Iodide of potassium ..	..	..	3ij.
Iodine ..	..	..	3ij.
Hydrochloric acid ..	..	..	3ij.
Water to ..	..	..	1 gallon
Spirit, 10 per cent. if desired, but better without.			

To the iodine and iodide of potassium contained in a mortar add 8 oz. of water and make a solution. Acidulate the remainder of the water with the hydrochloric acid and mix both solutions. In the event of the bottles being exposed to extreme cold it is advisable to add 10 per cent. of spirit, leaving out an equivalent amount of water. Lastly, filter the solution through paper.

#### Blue.

Sulphate of copper ..	..	..	℥xvj.
Sulphuric acid ..	..	..	3ij.
Water to ..	..	..	1 gallon

Add the acid to the water, and dissolve the sulphate of copper in it; then filter.

#### Amber.

Bichromate of potassium ..	..	..	℥iv.
Nitric acid ..	..	..	℥viij.
Water to ..	..	..	1 gallon

Dissolve the bichromate in the water, and add the nitric acid; filter through paper.

#### Straw or Lemon.

Bichromate of potassium ..	..	..	℥j.
Bicarbonate of sodium ..	..	..	5vj.
Water to ..	..	..	1 gallon

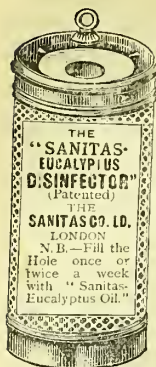
Dissolve the bichromate of potassium in a small amount of water, and add the bicarbonate of sodium; when effervescence has ceased, add the remainder of the water, and filter.

#### Green.

Sulphate of copper ..	..	..	℥x.
Hydrochloric acid ..	..	..	℥xv.
Water to ..	..	..	1 gallon

Dissolve the sulphate of copper in the water, add the hydrochloric acid and filter.

ITALY imported from Germany last year 10,718 kilos. cinchona salts (value 536,000 lire), 5,185 kilos. unenumerated alkaloids and their salts (value 934,000 lire), and 5,500 kilos refined camphor.



### "SANITAS-EUCALYPTUS DISINFECTORS" (PATENTED).

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Price 1s. each.

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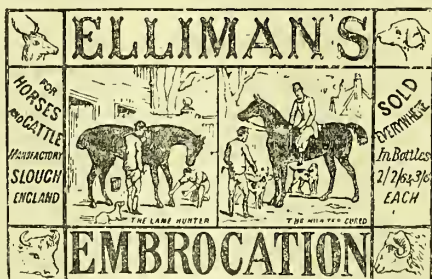
For charging same, &c., in 1s. Bottles.

See also page 10 (bottom folio).

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Sent to any address in the United Kingdom.



See first page, facing inside of cover, of this issue, for latest particulars.

## A POSITIVE PAIN - KILLER.

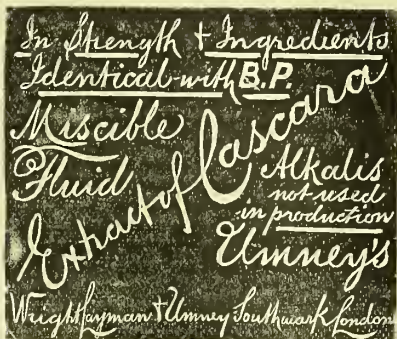
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*Concentrated Liquors*



### A WARNING TO DENTISTS.

If any chemists who are on the dentists' register receive from the General Medical Council a notice as printed below they need not be alarmed:—

Any registered dentist practising for gain who knowingly and wilfully deposes a person, not registered or qualified to be registered under the Dentists Act of professionally treating on his behalf in any matter requiring professional discretion or skill any person requiring operations in dentistry of a surgical character, will be liable to be treated as having been guilty of infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect, and to have his name erased from the Dentists' Register.

The English of the notification is about on a level with the legal soundness of its inferences. It is aimed at the alleged practice of covering by certain dentists in a large way of business. The British Dental Association claims to know of fourteen cases in which registered dentists conduct their practices by means of unqualified assistants, and the Association appealed to the Council to stop the practice; whereupon the Council took the matter into consideration, asked their solicitor to draft a warning, and, much to Sir Richard Quain's consternation, decided to send a copy of the warning to every person on the register. Sir Richard appears to have favoured the view that the Dental Association should send the warning to the persons whom it specially concerned. If the resolution be carried out to its logical conclusion dental apprenticeship will become impossible. Of course, the Council do not mean to enforce their threat to such an extent as this; and they will probably think two or three times before they take any action at all of the kind hinted at under the existing Dentists Act.

There is no power under that Act to stop an unqualified man from performing any or all of the operations of dentistry. Under the Pharmacy Act the unqualified man can be got at if he sell poisons; but the Dentists Act contains no

analogous provision. It protects the title, and the title only. The Medical Council, however, think they can attain their end by threatening to strike off the register "for infamous or disgraceful conduct" the name of the qualified dentist who employs an unqualified man, perhaps as the manager of a branch. The Council will find the Courts very reluctant to permit the exercise of such a power as this without abundant reason. The proper course is to ask Parliament to make it penal for unqualified persons to "act as dentists." Until this is the law it will be very difficult, we should think, to satisfy a judge, or at any rate a jury, that it is infamous or disgraceful for a qualified man to employ an unqualified assistant who does not infringe any part of the statute which it has pleased Parliament to enact.

### PILULÆ BENEDICTÆ.

It so rarely happens that a trade-mark dispute takes us back a couple of centuries that the case of *Hollick v. Horton*, which we report this week, can scarcely be allowed to pass without comment. The circumstances of the case are that the plaintiff registered and used as a trade-mark the title "Benedict Pills" in the belief that the title was original with him. It was within the defendant's knowledge, however, that the title was an old one, and as such not a proper subject for a registered trade-mark, upon which belief he acted, with the result that when proceedings were instituted against him, and the matter came into court, the plaintiff abandoned his case and his trade-mark, so that now we stand in the position that anyone may use the title "Benedict's Pills."

We may safely say that few pharmacists are aware that such a combination as Benedict pills ever existed in pharmaceutical literature, although they are referred to by Cooley in a somewhat indefinite fashion. There we find "Pills, Bennet's, see Pills, Fuller's," and when we turn up the second reference we get the following paragraph:—

"Pills, Fuller's. *Syn.* Bennet Pills; *Pilulæ Benedictæ*, L. *Prop.* (Cooley.) Aloes and sulphate of iron, of each  $\frac{1}{2}$  dr.; myrrh and senna, of each 20 gr.; assafœtida and galbanum, of each 10 gr.; mace and saffron, of each 6 gr.; mix and divide into 4 gr. pills. Antispasmodic emmenagogue, and tonic, and slightly aperient. Dose, 1 to 4, according to the object in view."

Here "Bennet Pills" appears to be a rendering of the French *Pilules benites*, under which name Jourdan, Soubieran and Dorvault quote Fuller's formula with the synonym *Pilules aloetiques fetides*. The formula which they give is similar to Cooley's, but the proportion of sulphate of iron is as three to two of aloes, which is correct. The formula also gives ol. succini as a flavouring agent. The only other nineteenth-century formula which we have been able to trace is a MS. one in an interleaved copy of the London Pharmacopœia, 1787, which shows signs of having been used for entries early in this century. The formula is given as for "Pil. Bendict" and is as follows:—

R Ferri vitriol., 3vj.; Aloes Socot. 3ss.; Fol. sennæ pulv. 3ij.; Gum. assafœtid., Gum. galbani, Gum. myrrhæ, Croci aa 3j.; Ol. succini, gtt. xxx. Gr. xv. alternis noctibus.

Cooley's statement that *Pilulæ Benedictæ* was P.L., we believe to be incorrect, as will afterwards appear. Meanwhile, we may point out that before Thomas Fuller indited his "Pharmacopœia Extemporanea," William Salmon (from whom Professor Charteris was quoting the other day) gave a recipe for *Pilulæ Benedictæ* in his "New London Dispensatory" (1696). It is:—

*Pilulæ Benedictæ*, the blessed pills.—Take aloes, lb ss.; Gum ammoniacum, in fine drops, 3ij.; Juice of carduus, inspissated, ʒj. with Rhenish wine and Carduus water—make a mass. *Salmon*. The virtues are the same with the tartar-pills [emmenagogue]. Dose, ʒj. You may give them both before and after meals.

Contemporaneously there was no formula at all resembling this, nor the title "*Pilulæ Benedictæ*," in the London Pharmacopœia, and the next mention we find of *Pil. Benedictæ* is in "Pharmacopœia Extemporanea" of Thomas Fuller (1705). The following is the English version from a later edition:—

*Bennet Pills*.—Take of the very finest Aloes half an ounce; Fenna, 2 drams; Assafœtida, Galbanum, Myrrh, each 1 dram; Vitriol of Mars, 6 drams; Saffron, Mace, each half a dram; Oil of amber, 40 drops; Syrup of mugwort, sufficient to beat it up with into a mass of pills for forty does.

Fuller adds that Bennet pills "are properly woman's physic, and a truly experimented and scarce failing remedy for such obstructions of the menses as are yet curable." The only pill in the London Pharmacopœia at all resembling this was "*Pilula Fœtida*," which contained aloes, trochis. alhandel, opopanax, ammoniacum, sagapenum, myrrh, rue-seed, thyme, of each ʒv.; scammony, turpeth root, esula minor, hermodactyl, ginger, spikenard, cinnamon, saffron, and castor, of each ʒj.; euphorbium, ʒj.; and oil of amber ʒss, massed with leek-juice. If this had had the sal. martis, it would have made a respectable pil. benedict; but inorganic compounds did not appear to be in favour at that time, so far as administration in pill-form is concerned, as the Pharmacopœias of the end of the seventeenth century contain none of that nature. The fetid pill disappeared in 1745, being amalgamated with pil. gummosa, which is now represented in our own Pharmacopœia by "Pil. Galbani Co." The original pil. gummosa was simpler in composition than pil. fœtida, but, like it, it was flavoured with oil of amber. Either of these pills might be taken as the official representation of "*Pilulæ Benedictæ*," but all the evidence that we have been able to gather rather shows that the pills were little known, for none of the contemporaries of Salmon and Fuller mention them. Culpepper, Quincy, Thomson, and many others whom we have consulted are silent regarding the pills. In fact, from 1720, no one except the MS. writer quoted, has done anything else than quote Fuller. The formula appears to have been original with him, but the sources of Salmon's information would indicate that the title, at least, was of much earlier date than the seventeenth century; and now, at the close of the nineteenth, we have it cropping up again; and surely no quainter title was ever given to a medicine for women than "Benedict Pills"! It may be that the name originated in the pil. catholice of Rudius, which, however, was somewhat unlike in composition, these by a natural transition becoming subsequently known as *pilules benites*.

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

THE leaders of the Grocers' Federation, who last March interviewed Mr. Ritchie on the subject of the sections which they think oppress them in the Sale of Food and Drugs Act and got rather snubbed for their pains, made similar representations a few days since to Sir Walter Foster, as the representative of the Local Government Board under the present Administration. Sir Walter Foster was much more gracious. The reform of the Adulteration Act was one of the first public works in which he had engaged; he was quite convinced that his visitors only sought to make the Act more effective; their claims had been most ably expressed; a few slight difficulties were involved, perhaps, but he would lay their views before his colleagues to the best of his ability. We hope the grocers are satisfied with these assurances.

What the grocers ask for is not very practicable. First,

they want always to be prosecuted under the Margarine Act, and not under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, if they sell margarine when butter is asked for. They have many customers, it appears, who most earnestly want margarine, but they will persist in calling it butter. The Margarine Act is satisfied if they supply the stuff in a wrapper bearing the name of "margarine," and out of respect for the feelings of these delicate customers, who are hurt if they hear the word mentioned, the grocers want to be assured that fulfilment of that requirement shall suffice for all purposes. Another thing that troubles them is the awkward difficulty about mixing coffee and chicory. Magistrates have been very variable in their decisions as to these mixtures. The grocers think that any mixture up to equal parts might be labelled "coffee and chicory," while above that ratio up to 75 per cent. of chicory and 25 per cent. of coffee they think might be expressed as "chicory and coffee," and that when it became necessary to put more chicory still, they demand, in the interest of honest trading, that the proportions should be indicated on the label. Sir Walter Foster entered into the humour of the proposal, but rather cruelly, perhaps, asked whether it would not be simpler if the labels were drafted so as to indicate in all cases roughly the proportions of the cheap and the dear substances—as, for instance, one-fourth chicory and three-fourths coffee, half-and-half, or three-fourths chicory and one-fourth coffee, as the case might be. Further, the grocers ask that their invoices from wholesale houses shall be legal warranties, as they are under the Margarine Act. There are obviously no end of difficulties associated with this proposal. It is clearly unfair that all the brunt of the battle should fall on the retailers, and it will be satisfactory if Sir Walter Foster can hit on some feasible plan for testing the honesty of wholesale dealers and importers; but the scheme advocated by the grocers, and actually embodied in a Bill which Dr. Cameron has drafted, is one which could only have the effect of adding enormously to the already too abundant litigation which the Act occasions. In the Margarine Act only one substance is referred to, and that a definite one; but the Sale of Food and Drugs Act applies to a multitude of substances of most varying degrees of definition.

We want to see an amendment of the Act which shall render its operation more certain, and at the same time more fair. The present very partial administration of it is not satisfactory either to the public or to traders. It ought to be the principle in trials under the Act that the loser shall pay. It is very unfair that a tradesman who has proved his innocence should be, as he almost always is, saddled with his own costs. Moreover, it is most desirable that when a point of law arises which the magistrate thinks should be referred to the High Court, the costs of such a reference should be national, or, at any rate, municipal. It is not right that individuals should be put to the expense of getting authoritative expositions of the meaning of statutes which the Legislature has left obscure. Another suggestion lately put forward by one of the metropolitan vestries seems to be worthy of consideration. It is that a special stipendiary magistrate shall be appointed expressly to deal with cases under this Act. The vestry, we suppose, makes the suggestion for London only, and perhaps that is as far as it would be practicable to apply it. The advantages which the proposal suggests are many, and are too obvious to need enlarging upon.

### THE POSITION OF CUBEBS.

THE one hundred and eighty-eight bags of cubebs which were offered for sale at last Thursday's drug-auctions by

three holders amounted to about two-thirds of the entire stock said to exist in our warehouses. The quantity was much the largest that has been offered at any single auction recently, and as part of it was pressed for sale, notwithstanding the market conditions seemed particularly adverse, it may be presumed that the owners of the consignments were in possession of information that made them anxious to get rid of their holdings while the market price still stood at a respectable height. Only forty-six bags were sold at the auctions; but we do not think that there would be any difficulty to-day in buying at the same rates as those that were paid at the public sales—viz, from 5*l.* 10*s.* down to 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. Unfortunately for those who have cubebs to sell, the majority of dealers, at any rate in this market, are disposed to believe that the price must continue its downward course until it once more reaches the level at which it was accustomed to move before 1880—that is to say, from 40*s.* to 50*s.* per cwt. When we last reviewed the position of the cubeb-market, in our issue of October 3, 1891, we pointed out the many weaknesses that led us to the conclusion that there was no justification for the speculative movement that had taken place then, instigated, it was said, by one or two American firms.

Last autumn's boom was neither a very big nor a long-sustained one, and since its subsidence the market-price of the drug has steadily receded. It is singular, however, that just in the same week when the London buyers showed their want of confidence one or two speculators should have thought the moment opportune for making a raid upon the Amsterdam market and buying up all the parcels there that they could lay their hands on. Our Amsterdam correspondent wired us last Thursday that the speculator who is responsible for the raid demands the modest increment of 40 per cent. profit for the stock he has secured, which is stated to amount to about 800 bags, or 28 tons weight. Another 200 bags at the most are believed to be in the possession of secondhand holders in Amsterdam. The identity of the speculator seems to be veiled in mystery, but he would appear to be a gentleman endowed with a pretty long purse and an equally confident disposition, for his broker declares that his principal is prepared to buy up all further parcels that may come to hand.

The reason why the autumn is so frequently selected as the time for getting up a corner in cubebs is that the season's harvest is then believed to have been mostly shipped away from Java. The first arrivals of the new crop are generally landed in Europe in June, and the man who is now engaged in gratifying his speculative inclinations in Amsterdam probably calculates upon having six clear months to realise his holdings. To the mind of the average druggist the adventure is about as hazardous a one as could be hit upon, and the speculator's friends, if he has any, may well shudder at the thought that next June their comrade may number among his earthly possessions several hundred bags of a hopelessly depreciated article. But the speculator, having thrown the die and crossed the Rubicon, must persevere, and, if he has Cæsar's generalship and faith in his own fortune, there is a bare chance that he will escape serious damage.

Speaking for ourselves, we are just as convinced as we were a year ago that cubebs are bound, at not too remote a period, to return to their former value. For many years—in fact, we believe ever since the price fell below 30*s.* per cwt, which appears to be approximately the point at which cultivation ceases to be profitable, our market has been dependent for its requirements upon wild berries, mainly gathered in Western Java by the natives, sold by them to itinerant Chinese dealers, and brought by the latter to Batavia and

into European hands. But in 1880 when the area of high prices set in, and appeared to hold out promise of continuity, the European planters in Java again began to entertain the idea of cultivating the cubeb-vine. Their inclination was much assisted by the Government, which freely supplied young plants to applicants (not altogether wisely, perhaps, for no account seems to have been taken of the narrow limits within which the consumption of the drug is confined), and since 1889 cultivated cubebs have once more been a regular market article. At first many druggists looked upon these berries with suspicion, engendered by the fact that they had not been met with in commerce for nearly twenty years, the last cubeb-plantations having been destroyed in Java in the early seventies, when the market price in Europe fell to about 16s. per cwt.; but the cultivated variety is now not only admitted without challenge, but realises upon an average about 15 per cent. more money than its savage sister. The history of cinchona teaches what may be expected when the Java planters once take seriously to the propagation of a drug, and those whom the lessons of the bark-market would still leave sceptical may be convinced by the study of the figures giving the cubeb-exports from Java during the last four years. Here are the statistics:—

Year ending June 30 ..	1888-89	1889-90	1890-91	1891-92
Piculs of 133½ lbs. ..	883	1,353	1,378	2,207

From July 1 to September 30 of this year 840 piculs left the island, considerably more than in any other three-monthly period on record. To place the total consumption of the world at 1,200 piculs a year is probably to over-estimate it.

#### COMMENTARY.

**FASHIONABLE PERFUMES.**—A popular writer was recently lamenting how perfumes lose caste by their becoming too popular, and the ever-useful patchouly gave him a good enough "awful example." Perhaps that writer had Alphonse Karr's idea in his mind. At any rate, the fashion chronicler of a leading London morning daily recalls the French author's observations on perfumes:—"A 'fashionable' colour, a 'fashionable' perfume," he cries, "puts me in a passion. A woman who changes her scents according as fashion dictates is a perfumed woman; she who always uses one scent assimilates it, and is a *femme odoriférante*." "To have learned the secret of making oneself recognised by a particular fragrance is indeed precious," continues the chronicler. "It stamps the fortunate possessor with the *cachet* of elegance. When choosing a perfume to make it one's own, preference should be given to something delicate, slight, and subtle, for the sense of smell must not be fatigued, but lightly titillated. Heavy scents are disagreeable and might distress persons sensitive in such matters who approach us. Of those that most people like, and that have been adopted by women of unquestionable taste, we may name *Eau de Cologne ambrée*, *Bouquet Impérial Russe*, *La Maréchale*, *Duchesse*, and white heliotrope. The last named is extremely 'fashionable.' All good dresses made in Paris have *sachet* powder introduced between the linings, or else a scrap of *peau d'Espagne* is tucked inside. Failing these, the wearer should sprinkle any liquid perfume preferred on the bodice lining. The petticoat and hem of the dress should also be sprayed before being put on. Then those who surround us will perceive only a subdued and discreet amount of perfume, for as too much salt and pepper in the soup betokens a bad cook, too lavish a use of scent discloses a vulgar nature." There is a suggestion in this

paragraph for perfume-makers—two bottle of the eau de Cologne and one each of the other perfumes in a nice case would make a handsome and popular Christmas present.

**NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF VANILLA.**—Java was almost the first foreign country in which the cultivation of vanilla was attempted. Its introduction into that island dates back to the year 1819, but no considerable success has attended its propagation. Réunion was the next place to take up vanilla-growing. The orchid was introduced into that island in 1822 by a M. Marchant, a colonial official, who brought a few plants from Paris. In 1836 Mr. C. Bernard, of Cassis, in the sister island of Mauritius, planted a few shoots of Réunion vanilla. Wholesale cultivation for commercial purposes, however, only began in Réunion in the forties, and in Mauritius about ten years later. The industry owed its development to the discovery of the method of artificial fecundation of the flower, now universally adopted in the East, whereby the pollen is introduced into the female flower by means of a small stick of wood. The honour of the discovery is generally claimed for Professor Morren, of the botanical gardens of Liège, but it is doubtful whether it belongs to him or to one Edmond Albius, a negro employed on M. Beaumont Bellier's plantation at Réunion. In Mexico the fructification of the orchids is done by a kind of hee which is not found in Mauritius. The plantations in the Mauritius and Réunion are generally but poorly looked after, and it is said that if greater care were bestowed upon them, their output might be very considerably increased. The mode of preparation mostly in vogue in the Mascarene Islands is that first introduced in 1851 by M. Loupy, of St. André, and consists of exposing the pods for a few seconds to steam, or dipping them into boiling water—sometimes they are heated for a short time in an oven. The fruit is then dried in the sun for two or three weeks, and in the shade for as many months, when it is ready for boxing.

**ADVERTISING BY PLACARDS.**—An inflamed correspondence has been carried on in the *Times* by persons who claim to possess very lofty artistic tastes, violently denouncing the extending practice of advertising on dead walls and hoardings, and in railway stations. A general opinion has been expressed that if such advertisements cannot be prohibited they might, at least, be taxed. "Soap and Pills" are generally named as the principal offenders. In Thursday's *Times*, Mr. Thomas J. Barratt, chairman of A. & F. Pears (Limited), replies thus pithily to the criticisms which have been published:—

SIR,—A large amount of correspondence has recently appeared in your columns upon the subject of advertising, chiefly from people who evidently know nothing at all about it.

I think it may be as well to point out that without the assistance of the advertiser the morning paper cannot be produced at anything like the price at which it is sold, nor can railway or omnibus companies' shareholders be satisfied without the same potential aid.

An attempt, as some of your correspondents have suggested, to tax advertising (which represents the expenditure of some millions sterling per annum) would recoil upon any Government with sufficient temerity to make it. There are too many thousands in the various industries interested who would have something to say upon that subject.

It would be far better if artists of repute and ability, of whom, unfortunately, many may now be counted amongst the "unemployed," instead of displaying so much fear, or so much jealousy, of each other, would zealously lend their assistance in directing so huge a power for the improvement of the tastes of the people.

**DEATH OF A VETERAN.**—As we go to press we hear with regret of the death, on Wednesday evening, of Mr. William Ainslie, pharmaceutical chemist, Edinburgh. Mr. Ainslie was in his seventy-fifth year, and had been an active worker in Scotch pharmacy for almost half a century, as an examiner councillor, and President of the North British Branch.

## Notes of Novelties.

### SANDOID'S PERFUMERY.

MESSRS. SANDOID & Co., of 26 Clekenwell Road, have submitted for our inspection samples of a variety of perfumes to sell at 6d., 1s., and higher prices, which seem to be good value and excellently put up for sale. The firm also supply perfumes in bulk.

### TOM SMITH'S CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES.

TOM SMITH & Co., the famous cracker makers of Wilson Street, Finsbury Square, have added to their immense assortment of these popular goods a special line of "Perfumed Crackers," specially suitable for sale by chemists. The firm are large manufacturing confectioners, and among their novelties in sweets are some very attractive bottles of sweets, which can be added to the stock of retail chemists. These include variously perfumed "Cubelets," "Satinettes," very attractively produced in variously coloured squares, extra fruit tablets and Parisian nougat, in pretty cases. Chemists should get Messrs. Tom Smith & Co.'s list. They have discovered an apt quotation from Pliny with which they head their letter paper, and many traders should bear it in mind. It runs: "Est natura hominum novitatis avida?"

### CHRISTMAS-CARD SACHETS.

MESSRS. BREIDENBACH & Co., of Greek Street, Soho, send us a specimen of a richly-perfumed sachet which they are this year supplying in large quantities for sale by chemists at 6d., as a Christmas greeting, or to accompany one. It is supplied in a postage-case, and should be enormously popular. It is an article chemists can very appropriately sell.

### BORAX-AND-CAMPHOR SOAP.

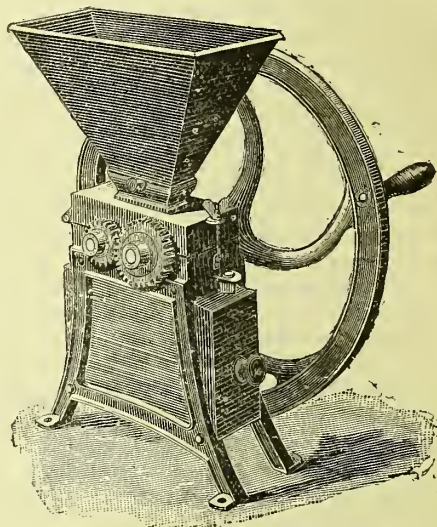
THE idea of combining borax and camphor in a soap, especially for washing the hair, is a good one. Ellen Terry thinks so, and so do we. Messrs. Dodd Brothers, Stamford Hill, N., have the credit of devising and patenting the novelty, and they are now putting it on the market in quite elegant style. It is a good soap, and with the hard water of London it leaves the hair in that soft and free state which is so much desired, instead of the sticky and tufty condition which ordinary toilet soaps only aggravate, and which pure London water cannot overcome, but makes worse. The good effects of the soap may be particularly noticed in the case of children, for whom the head-washing night is not always the happiest one of the week. We should think that Messrs. Dodd's novelty will be a popular one.

### "NOTHING BUT LEAVES."

THIS is the title of a new volume, just published by Messrs. Bourne, Johnson & Latimer, and of which a copy has been sent to us for review. The booklet is unique in this respect, that it appeals to the absolutely unlettered as well as to the most erudite, and is likely to be most popular outside the library. "Nothing but Leaves" is a sequel to "Stray Leaves from Japanese Papers," and, like its predecessor, is sold in paper covers at the moderate price of 4d. per dozen (retail, 6d.). Notwithstanding the blameless morality of its pages, Mr. Mudie, we hear, has determined not to place the work upon his list. The author of this clever volume modestly describes it as a "wordless book for the toilet table."

### A NEW DRUG-MILL.

MESSRS. BENNETT, SONS & SHEARS, 167 Kingsland Road, E., are introducing to the drug-trade a new mill which appears to be well suited for the every-day wants of pharmacy. It will be seen from our illustration that the design of the mill is



very neat, and we can add that the principle of construction is sound. The grinding-surfaces are two solid steel cylinders the surfaces of which are turned into helicoid grooves, and in the act of grinding these rotate in opposite directions, thus inducing thorough disintegration. There is a sliding toothed plate below the cylinders which keeps the cylinders always clean. The mill can be quickly taken down into parts for cleaning, and, judging from our own results with ipecacuanha, it should become a popular mill with the trade, especially as the price is moderate—viz., 35s. The mill will grind anything from linseed to ipecacuanha—one of the toughest things we know of. There is also a larger size.

### WATERPROOF "CHRISTIA."

MESSRS. T. CHRISTY & Co. have made some improvements recently in the manufacture of "Christia," devised by Mr. Jahn, who looks after this branch of the business. "Christia" is now made thoroughly waterproof, both in silk and in paper—a great advantage, especially for photographic work, in which the material is now very largely used, and for which it is supplied in ruby colour. It is also in great demand on the Continent, especially for surgical purposes.

**SALT AS A SWEETENER OF SUGAR.**—Sugar and salt are sometimes held to be incompatible or antagonistic in their action on the organs of taste, but it is a common social experience that the addition of the slightest dash of salt adds flavour to sweet coffee, and sugar-cured hams have their own reputation, while meat and vegetables cooked "sour and sweet" are a favourite delicacy in Germany. Professor Zuntz, at the Physiological Society of Berlin, definitely explained the making of sugar sweeter by the addition of salt. From his experiments he finds that if to a solution of sugar there be added a slight amount of salt-and-water, so weak that it excites no saline taste, the result is extra sweetening of the sugared water. The weakest of quinine solution is said also to produce similar results. The explanation given of the above seeming incongruity is that the ever so feeble saltiness or bitterness imparts an increased sensibility to the sensation of taste by the simultaneous stimuli, and hence an appreciation of additional sweetness.—*British Medical Journal.*

## New Companies.

## COUGHS AND COUGH-MIXTURES.

BY A WEST-END PHYSICIAN.

**ANHELAKON (LIMITED).**—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Object: To acquire the business carried on by H. G. Sewell, and the patents and process, &c., relating to Mohun's Sunburn Lotion, or "Anhelakon," and to carry on business as wholesale and retail chemists, druggists, and merchants, &c. The first subscribers (who take one share each) are:—E Long, 61 Chancery Lane, E.C., accountant; E A Radcliffe, 109 Colmore Row, Birmingham, architect; R. P. Birkett, 121 Colmore Row, Birmingham, accountant; J. H. Kirkby, 72A Deansgate, Manchester, warehouseman; E. C. Toller, 63 Chancery Lane, accountant; J. H. Wilkinson, Southport, accountant; and J. D. Jackson, 19 Harleyford Street, S.E., financier. Registered without special articles of association. Offices, 61 & 62 Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

**DR. CHARLES ROOKE (LIMITED).**—Capital 25,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Object: To acquire the business of F. W. Rooke (deceased), of 80 Westborough, Scarborough, and the business of H. and J. Buckley (trading as Henry Buckley & Son, at 168 Wellington Street Leeds); generally to carry on business as chemists and druggists, newspaper proprietors, &c. The first subscribers (who take one share each) are:—W. B. Mason, West End Park, Harrogate, wholesale druggist; J. Buckley, Wellington Street, Leeds, printer; E. E. Judson, 10 Harehills Terrace, Leeds, cashier; J. S. Allanson, 12 Brudenell Mount, Leeds, manager; J. W. Holt, 5 Commercial Buildings, Leeds, stockbroker; W. Middlebrook, Morley, Leeds, solicitor; and H. Buckley, 2 Cromwell Road, Scarborough, gentleman. There shall not be less than three nor more than five directors; the first to be elected by the subscribers to the memorandum of association. Qualification, 1,000*l.* Remuneration, 2*l.* 2*s.* each for each board attendance and a percentage of the profits. Registered office, 18 Guildford Street, Leeds.

**ROBERT POOLE & COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Registered in Ireland on November 22 by Messrs. Jordan & Sons, of 120 Chancery Lane, London. Capital 3,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of patent-medicine vendors, drug merchants, oil, colour, and glass merchants, and general store keepers, now or lately carried on under the name or style of "Robert Poole & Company," at Lady Lane and Michael Street, in the city of Waterford. The first subscribers are as follows:—Mary Eliza Poole, 2 Summerhill, Waterford, widow; William Poole, Newtown Road, Waterford, engineer; Philip Murphy, 5 Michael Street, Waterford, grocer; Matilda Frances Hornick, Johnshill House, Fethard, co. Wexford, spinster; William Chapman, 61 Quay, Waterford, merchant; Sarah Chapman, Bellevue Terrace, Waterford, married woman; William Hornick, Johnshill House, Fethard, co. Wexford, farmer. The first directors are to be appointed by the above-named subscribers. The qualification of a director is the holding of shares to the value of 20*l.* Registered office, Michael Street, Waterford.

**PRESTON DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Registered on November 26 by Messrs. Jordan & Sons, of 120 Chancery Lane, London. Capital 27,500*l.*, in 2*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the businesses of wholesale and retail chemists and druggists, grocers, perfumers, patent-medicine manufacturers and vendors, bakers, tea-dealers, and all businesses usually carried on by co-operative societies, and to acquire the goodwill of the businesses and undertakings of wholesale and retail chemists and druggists, grocers, wine and spirit merchants, and patent-medicine vendors, carried on at 93 and 87 Fishergate, 28 Church Street, and 1 Fox Street, Preston, and at Horwich, Wigan, and elsewhere, under the style or firm of the "Preston Drug Company." The first subscribers are as follows:—Thomas Lewis, 87 Fishergate, Preston, chemist; William Burrows, 93 Fishergate, Preston, chemist; Robert Y. Knagg, 22 Garstang Road, Fulwood, Preston, schoolmaster; William Latham, 23 Fishergate, Preston, chemist; Thomas Jenkins, 93 Fishergate, Preston, grocer; Charles John Place, 6 Garden Street, Preston, chemist; Edwin Wilson, 10 Mount Street, Preston, chemist. Registered office, 1 Fox Street, Preston. The company is registered without special articles of association.

**SIMPLICITY** is said to be the distinguishing mark of a good prescription, but certainly it is not the distinguishing mark of cough-mixtures. The average cough-mixture requires at least half-a-dozen drugs, and, moreover, these seem to be arranged on the mutual-destruction principle. Opium, for example, must be neutralised by ipecacuanha, and so forth. Why this mystery we cannot tell, unless, indeed, it is a survival from the good old times, when half the Pharmacopœia was prescribed at once in the hope that among many things the right one would be found. Be this as it may, the fact remains, and must be our excuse for saying something about coughs and coughing—about what cough-mixtures can do, and what they should be to do it.

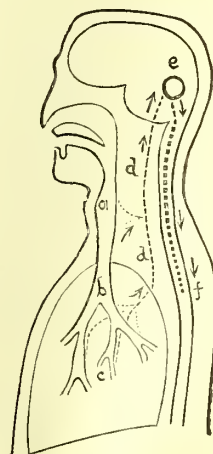
### WHAT IS A COUGH?

A cough is simply a modified respiration. The air is first drawn into the lungs, and when they are filled, the glottis or chink of the larynx is closed so that none can escape. Then the "expiratory" muscles are brought into action, and powerfully compress the lungs till at length the pent-up air overcomes the resistance of the glottis and escapes with an explosion. The usefulness of the cough depends on the fact that when the glottis is forced the sudden rush of air carries with it whatever may be in its way, and thus clears out any obstruction of the air-passages.

### THE MECHANISM OF COUGHING.

The production of a cough is by no means a simple matter, but involves the whole of that wonderful process which physiologists call a "reflex." The nature of this reflex may be most clearly shown by a little illustration. If the hand be pricked by a pin a message is instantly flashed along the sensory nerves to the "hand centre" in the brain, and thence it is "reflected" out again through the motor nerves to the muscles, and these by their contraction jerk the hand out of danger's way.

Like the skin, the lining or mucous membrane of the air passages is highly sensitive. The sensory nerves pass from it to join the great main trunk of the vagus nerve, in which they run up through the neck to the "respiratory centre" in the brain. The motor nerves from the "respiratory centre" leave the brain by the spinal cord, from which they pass in the spinal nerves to end in the muscles of the chest. This may be expressed more simply by the following diagram, in which the course of the nerves is indicated by the arrows:—



- a. Larynx.      b. Bronchi dividing in the lung.      c. Lung.  
d. Sensory nerves running from larynx, bronchi, and lung to join the vagus.  
e. Respiratory centre in the brain.  
f. Motor nerves passing down spinal cord. The branches from the cord out to the muscles are not represented.

## HOW IS COUGHING CAUSED?

Anything that irritates the sensory nerves of the air-passages will cause a cough. If a crumb of bread, for example, "swallowed the wrong way," gets into the larynx the nerves at once feel the presence of an intruder, and call for aid to expel it. Away along the vagus speeds the signal of distress, it reaches the "respiratory centre," it is shunted to the motor nerves and away again by spinal cord and spinal nerves to its destination—the muscles of the chest. All this is done so rapidly that in a fraction of a second the "reflex arc" has been completed, the muscles respond to the call made upon them, a cough is produced, and the unwelcome guest is ignominiously "chucked out."

## COUGH IN DISEASE.

Cough is a symptom of many diseases, from the most trivial to the most deadly—from the common cold, for instance, to phthisis itself. It is, of course, impossible in a short paper to deal with all the different varieties of cough, and only those will be considered which are met with in every-day life, which affect people able to be up and about their business, and which are more or less amenable to "cough-mixtures."

For all practical purposes these coughs may be classified under three great types, often popularly spoken of as "easy," "difficult," and "painful." To distinguish the types these terms will do as well as any other, especially as they very aptly express the outstanding character of each.

## THE "EASY" COUGH.

In health the lining of the air-passages is kept moist by a "secretion" sufficient in quantity for that purpose and no more. In disease, however, this secretion often becomes excessive. In the later stages of a "cold in the chest," for example, a large quantity of watery fluid is poured out into the bronchi, where it acts just like the crumb of bread—irritating the nerves and causing coughing.

This cough is generally described as being "easy" or "free," by which the idea is conveyed that there is little or no pain, and that the expectoration is copious and comes away without any trouble. Here we see beautifully the need for and the use of coughing. It is a beneficent effort of Nature, for without it the fluid would accumulate, swamping the air-passages and lungs, and literally drowning the sufferer in his own secretion. To attempt to stop such a cough, then, would clearly be most unwise, and the best plan generally is to let it run its course to the cure which Nature soon supplies.

## THE "DIFFICULT" COUGH.

In this type also the cough is caused by an excess of secretion, but of a very different character. It is not copious and watery but scanty and exceedingly viscid. This is met with in the extremely common chronic bronchitis or "winter cough." The patient complains of violent but not painful coughing, chiefly in the morning, often coming on in fits, and resulting in nothing but the expectoration of a little tough phlegm. The violent, frequent, futile nature of the cough is explained by the viscid adhesiveness of the secretion, for that enables it to stick to the walls of the passages, where it causes great discomfort to the nerves and holds its ground despite the best efforts for its expulsion.

The adhesiveness however not only explains the kind of cough, but it also gives the key to treatment. All that is necessary is to remove this obstacle and nature will do the rest. In other words, to render the secretion less viscid and more watery by giving stimulating expectorants. The cough then becomes easy and effective, the passages are cleared, and an opportunity is given for a return to a more healthy state.

## THE "PAINFUL" COUGH.

This variety is totally distinct from the two former. In it there is nothing to be coughed up. The irritation is not from foreign material in the passages, but arises from a sore, tender state of the lining membrane itself. This soreness, of course, affects the nerves, and thus the cough. Here, however, there is nothing for the cough to do, and it is useless, and worse than useless, for every one of the violent spasmodic movements hurts the already tender lining more and more, and aggravates the disease.

Such a "painful" cough occurs in a great number of diseases of the larynx, bronchi, and lungs. Its outstanding character in all is that it hurts, and therefore it is short and suppressed, for the patient does not want to do it more than he can help. For all coughs of this kind there is but one treatment—they must be stopped, and the "sedative" that will accomplish this most quickly and efficiently is the remedy to use.

## THE REMEDIES FOR COUGHS.

The drugs in common use for cough-mixtures may be conveniently arranged in three groups, according to their method of action:—

Firstly, drugs acting on the lining membrane of the air-passages so as to dry it by diminishing its secretion. Such are opium and its alkaloids morphine and codeine, belladonna and acetate of lead.

Secondly, drugs acting in precisely the opposite manner, and stimulating a watery secretion. These are generally known as expectorants, and among them may be mentioned senega, quillaia squill, ipecacuanha, tartarated antimony, pilocarpine, and apomorphine.

Thirdly, drugs acting on the respiratory centre, and by lessening its sensitiveness soothing the cough. These are the "pulmonary sedatives," and the most important are opium, morphine, codeine, hydrocyanic acid, and conium.

## HOW COUGH-REMEDIES ARE TO BE USED.

After what has been said it can hardly be necessary to add that there is no universal remedy for coughs. As the cause and nature of coughs differ, so also must their treatment differ, and no cough-mixture can be concocted that will equally apply to all. If it is helpful in one it must of necessity be hurtful in the other. The practical question then remaining is, What remedies are to be used in the different types of cough we have mentioned?

The guiding principle in treating the "easy" cough should be "let well alone," or give that *placebo* which is often so satisfactory to both patient and prescriber. For the others the case is clear—sedatives for the "painful" cough, expectorants for the "difficult." Further, there is no need for many drugs. One or two will do the work required, if arranged on the principle of mutual co-operation rather than that of mutual destruction.

We may append the following prescriptions merely as examples of—

## (a) An Expectorant Mixture.

Ammon. carb.	..	..	..	..	gr. xxiv.
Tinct. quill. sap.	..	..	..	..	3vj.
Aq. menth. pip. ad	..	..	..	..	3vj.

M.

Sig.: A tablespoonful four times daily.

## (b) A Sedative Mixture.

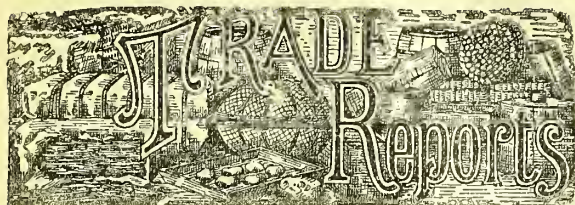
Codeinæ	..	..	..	..	gr. iij.
Ac. hydrocyan. dil.	..	..	..	..	℥ss.
Syrup. limonis	..	..	..	..	3iss.
Aquam ad	..	..	..	..	3vj.

M.

Sig.: Shake the bottle and take a tablespoonful every three hours.

OF the drugs imported into Uruguay last year, France sold \$106,588; England, \$60,088; Germany, \$32,704; Italy, \$33,257; the United States, \$26,333—a total of \$279,665 worth.

THE ELECTRIC FLY-TRAP paragraph which we printed more than a year ago is still going the rounds, and *Science* *Siftings* caps it with the statement that the trap is not dissimilar to a contrivance for destroying insects which has been successfully tested in one of the parks of Munich. A rough framework was built, with a large electric projector at the top. At the same point was a powerful exhaust-fan, operated by a motor leading to a kind of grinding-mill. The insects, attracted by the light, would be drawn by the draught into a passage leading them down to death and mutilation in the grinder. In some parts of Northern Europe it is claimed that these pests have been turned to good account, the crushed insects being mixed with flour and water, and haked, the cake being used for feeding poultry.



**Notice to Retail Buyers:**—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable, even for manufacturing purposes.

It should also be recollected that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.

## The London Markets.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., November 30.

### The Preservation of Vanilla in Alcohol.

Some time ago we called attention to a new mode of preserving vanilla-pods, adopted in Réunion, and consisting in the steeping of the green fruit, when freshly gathered, in alcohol. This process was discovered in 1838 by three gentlemen of St. Denis, the capital of Réunion. Their names were Potier, the director of the botanical gardens; Ohatel, a pharmacist; and Dandé, a planter. Museum specimens of green pods in alcohol were sent to the Paris Exhibition of 1889, but until now the process has not been carried out on a commercial scale. It is stated, however, that it is the intention of some of the Réunion growers to ship a considerable portion of this year's crop packed in casks on alcohol. The rationale of the alcohol process is based upon the view that in the green vanilla-pods the vanillin, or odorous principle, does not exist in the free state, but in the form of a glucoside insoluble in alcohol, and that, therefore, the pods when landed in Europe will be richer in vanillin by about 40 per cent. than they would be had they been dried in the Tropics.

### The Suggested Turkish Opium Monopoly.

We understand that the individual who first attempted to obtain (and evidently expected to acquire) the sole right to export opium from Turkey was one Yousouf Rizé Pasha, who would eventually have sold his rights to some Armenian house. But it was soon evident that no monopoly would be granted. In 1861 the Porte, in its treaty of commerce with England and other Powers, engaged to abolish monopolies, and in the treaty now in course of negotiation Turkey enters into the same engagement, excepting only in the case of "matches." Consequently there would be such protestations on the part of the European Embassies, were the Porte to entertain the idea of establishing a monopoly in opium, that the Turkish Government would not—dare not—listen to the proposals made. It is thought that the threat of a monopoly in opium is kept alive simply to cause a boom in that article.

### The Cinchona Sales.

The London auctions of December 13 will be the last of the current year. The first cinchona sales of 1893 are fixed for January 10. The dates of the ten cinchona sales to be held in Amsterdam in 1893 have been fixed as follows:—January 12, February 16, March 23, April 27, June 1, July 6, August 31, October 5, November 9, and December 14.

### The Citric and Tartaric Acid Test.

We learn that the special committee which the Chamber of Commerce appointed some time ago to report, amongst other matters, on the desirability of laying down some recognised method of applying the B.P. test in the case of citric and tartaric acids, have agreed to recommend the general adoption of the following method:—Take of tartaric acid (or citric acid) 10 grammes, water 20 c.c.; dissolve the

acid in the water, and bring up the solution to 100 c.c. by the addition of freshly prepared sulphuretted hydrogen water.

**ACETANILID.**—The price of this article, which was recently raised, has now come down, and for quantities 1s. 7d. per oz. would be accepted. The idea which prevailed recently that a combination would be effected in the drug does not seem to be entertained now.

**ACID (CITRIC).**—The export trade this month has been pretty brisk, and there have been considerable shipments to Russia. The market is firm to-day at 1s. 5½d. sellers, and 1s. 5¼d. buyers for second-hand. B.P. quality is held at 1s. 6d. per lb. by the manufacturers.

**ACID (TARTARIC).**—Very dull at 11¼d. to 12d. per lb., according to brand and position.

**ALCOHOL.**—German potato-spirit is now almost down to the lowest point on record for the season. To-day's quotation for 2,000 gallon contracts, naked, is 8½d. per proof gallon c.i.f. terms, for standard brands.

**ALOES.**—There has been an arrival of 62 cases from Cape Town per *Doune* this week. We have also received 80 packages aloes from Bombay in the *Valetta*.

**ANISE.**—This year's Russian anise sells at 24s to 25s. per cwt., but seed of previous crops may be had at 2s. per cwt. less.

**ANTIMONY.**—Crude Japanese antimony is quiet at 25l. per ton.

**BUCHU.**—Arrivals are coming in slowly. The *Scot* only brought 2 bales from Cape Town this week, and 10 bales came in the *Doune*.

**CAMPHOR (CRUDE).**—The spot price for Japan camphor is now 170s. per cwt., which shows an advance of fully 5s. for the week. The market is excited to-day, and it is freely stated that a firm has considerably oversold itself, and is now unable to procure the necessary quantities to fulfil its contracts. There is only one considerable holder of Japan camphor on the spot in London, and he raises his price continually, and appears confident that the end of the advance is not by any means in sight. A good deal of business has been done this week—viz., a few tubs *Japan* on the spot at 165s., and about 350 tubs September–October and more distant shipment at 165s. to 180s. per cwt., c.i.f. About 700 cases *China* camphor have also changed hands at 160s. per cwt. on the spot, 150s., c.i.f., for October, and from 145s. down to 135s., c.i.f., according to position, as far back as January–March shipment.

**CAMPHOR (REFINED).**—English is still unaltered at 1s. 10½d. per lb. for 10 cwt. from the makers, but the price may be raised at any moment. *French* is quoted at 1s. 11d. per lb. net. *German* has been raised to 1s. 10d. per lb. net by the makers.

**CANARY-SEED.**—After a prolonged spell of quietness, this article is again moving up rapidly this week, and a considerable business has been done for home trade as well as for export to the Continent, United States, and Australia, for Mogadore and Turkish seed, 85s. being now asked for both descriptions. It is said that the whole of the Dutch crop has been disposed of, and sanguine operators believe that there is nothing to prevent the price from going to 150s. per cwt.

**CASSIA FISTULA.**—In Amsterdam the stock has been cleared with the exception of a recent arrival of 80 bales, still unsold. The demand continues and prices keep high.

**CHAMOMILES.**—There is not much demand here, but on the Continent the market appears to be excited, and the quotations have been raised considerably all round—for instance, for small brown flowers, of which sales were recently made here at 36s. 6d., the owners now require 48s. per cwt.

**CINNAMON.**—At the quarterly auctions on Monday the comparatively small supply of 2,184 bales of Ceylon cinnamon (including some 700 bales unworked) was offered. There was a fairly steady demand, which improved as the sales went on, and about 1,650 bales sold, at 1d. to 2d. per lb. advance

for good to superior, and  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. for ordinary grades. The following are the present prices:—Firsts: Superior, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 5d.; ordinary to fine, 7d. to 11 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. Seconds: Superior, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d.; ordinary to fine, 6d. to 10 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. Thirds: Superior, 11d. to 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; ordinary to good, 6d. to 9d. per lb. Fourths and unworked, 5 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 8d. Cinnamon chips sold steadily at 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb.; quillings at 4 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 5 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ , and broken quill at 6d. to 6 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb.

CINCHONA.—Tuesday's auctions were larger by a long way than their predecessors for several months back. The catalogues comprised of:—

	Packages	Packages
Ceylon cinchona .. ..	1,331 of which	1,235 were sold
East Indian cinchona ..	461	420 "
Java cinchona .. ..	107	107 "
West African cinchona ..	463	456 "
South American cinchona ..	201	250 "
	2,719	2,478

The assortment of bark offered was a fairly good one, though there were no very rich parcels, only one or two lots realising over 7d. per lb. The Itoian bark consisted almost wholly of *Officinalis*, and there was an unusually large quantity of West African bark (*Succirubra* character) of poor quality. Competition was anything but brisk, and only two of the German agents bought considerably. The result of the auctions may be summed up as showing an average decline of 5 to 10 per cent., reducing the unit to 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  at the most. The following are the quantities purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
Agents for the Mannheim and Amsterdam works	251,112
" Frankfort-o-Main and Stuttgart works .. ..	72,433
" Brunswick factory .. ..	54,874
" Auerbach .. ..	33,295
Messrs. Howards & Sons .. ..	26,091
Agents for the American and Italian works .. ..	22,955
Agents for the Paris factory .. ..	22,141
Boundary druggists .. ..	41,288
Total quantity of bark sold .. ..	524,188
Bought in or withdrawn .. ..	49,610
Total quantity offered .. ..	573,798

It should be well understood that the quantity of bark bought gives little or no clue to the quinine represented by the purchases, as firms who buy little will sometimes bid for rich barks only, and *vice versa*. The following are the prices paid for sound bark:—

CEYLON CINCHONA.—*Original*.—Red varieties: Ordinary to good bright quilly stem and branch chips, 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 3d.; fair to fine bright shavings, 2d. to 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; fair but somewhat dusty root, 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. Grey varieties: Ordinary to fair quilly branch chips, 2d. to 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; stem chips, 4d. to 4 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; shavings, 2 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 2 $\frac{3}{4}d.$ ; dusty root, 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 4 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. Yellow varieties: Very poor and thin to good bright quilly stem and branch chips, 2d. to 6d.; good shavings, 5 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; root and chips mixed, 6 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; root, 4 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. Hybrid varieties: Small to fair chips, 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 2 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. *Renewed*.—Red varieties: Woody and dull to good bright stem and branch chips, 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 4 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; fine shavings, 4d. to 6d. per lb. Grey varieties: Ordinary to fair stem and branch chips, 2 $\frac{3}{4}d.$  to 5 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; fair to good bright shavings, 4 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 6d. per lb. Yellow varieties: Fine bright stem chips, 6d.; good to fine shavings, 5 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 7 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. Hybrid stem chips, 2 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb.

EAST INDIAN CINCHONA.—*Original*: Ordinary to fair red stem and branch chips, 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 2 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; good ditto root, 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. Grey varieties: A large quantity of stem and branch chips, ordinary thin and dull, at 1 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 2 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; fair to good bright quilly at 3d. to 5 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. Fair root at 5 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb. *Renewed*: Fair red chips, 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb.; medium to fine bright quilly chips, 4 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 7 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb., one lot 9 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb.

JAVA CINCHONA.—*Yellow* branch and stem chips, 3d. to 6d.; dust, 3d. to 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$ ; root, 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 5 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb.

WEST AFRICAN CINCHONA.—Red chips, fair to good bold and broken, somewhat irregular quill, mostly damaged, 2 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 4d. per lb.

SOUTH AMERICAN CINCHONA.—Broken to fair bold brown

and silvery cultivated Calisaya quill, from the Bolivian plantations, 4d. to 7d. per lb.

The following figures refer to the exports of cinchona from Java during the three months July, August, and September of the following years:—

	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888
	Amsterdam lbs.	Amsterdam lbs.	Amsterdam lbs.	Amsterdam lbs.	Amsterdam lbs.
Government plantations .. ..	142,726	182,724	64,208	182,647	178,749
Private plantations .. ..	1,334,535	2,515,474	1,597,813	987,641	916,363
Total .. ..	1,477,261	2,698,198	1,662,021	1,170,288	1,095,112

The exports from Java for the month of November are reported, by cable, to have been 680,000 lbs.

CLOVES.—The market for *Zanzibar* cloves has suddenly become excited, and on Wednesday 2,500 hales were reported to have changed hands at from 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  to 3 $\frac{3}{4}d.$  per lb. on the spot. To-day things are not so lively, but cloves keep firm nevertheless; there are buyers but no sellers of fair *Zanzibar* for next year's shipment, at 3 $\frac{1}{2}d.$  per lb.

COPPER (SULPHATE).—Dearer. On the spot the price is 15l. 10s., and in Liverpool 16l. f.o.b. on the spot. But for next year much higher prices are quoted.

CROTON-SEEDS.—Business has been done in mixed Bombay seed at 20s. per cwt.

CUBEBS.—Further sales of good brown berries are reported this week at 5l. 10s. per cwt. Our Amsterdam correspondent writes that the strength of the position of the speculator who has bought up the first-hand stock of cubebs there is weakened not alone by the existence of about 200 bags in second hands, but also by the fact that every arriving Java steamer brings fresh supplies, which he is compelled to buy if he wants to keep his grip of the market. The total exports of cubebs from Java during the three months from July 1 to September 30 have been:—In 1892, 840 piculs; in 1891, 534; in 1890, 313; in 1889, 242; and in 1888, 108 piculs. Of this year's shipments during the period mentioned, 615 piculs were sent to Holland, 22 to London, 67 to New York, 35 to Singapore, and 102 to Hamburg.

CUTCH.—The market is firm, with small sales of *W two stars* at 33s., *M M* at 32s. 6d., and *Star B* at 31s. 6d. per cwt.

FENUGREEK-SEED is in strong demand, and everything that arrives is promptly sold at firm prices.

GALLS (CHINA).—A fair business has taken place for arrival; but on the spot the market is quiet; the sales reported are at the rate of 47s. 6d., c.i.f., for January-March shipment.

GAMBIER has been firmer, with sales on the spot of block at 20s. 6d. to 20s. 9d. per cwt. Cube Gambier is much wanted, but none is offering on the spot. There are sellers for November-December shipment at 30s. per cwt.

GOA POWDER is becoming very scarce. A parcel was offering this week at 1s. 2d. per lb., but it is said to contain 35 per cent. of inorganic matter; for fair quality 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. is asked; and a lot of fine yellow for powdering is held off the market at 2s. per lb.

GUM ACACIA.—There has been a much better demand for *Ghatti* gum lately, but at to-day's auctions prices were very irregular. Some of the holders could not obtain their limits, and bought in everything; others sold at an advance of about 2s to 2s. 6d. per cwt. for good quality. *Kurrachee Amrad* declined 3s. to 4s. per cwt.; *Aden, Camppore*, and *Yellow Amrad* gums were steady. For good soft *Soudan sorts* 73s. per cwt. was paid, showing steady value. Although lower prices have been accepted in Liverpool for *Gehzirah* gum, the market here remains nominally unchanged at 35s. to 40s. per cwt.

GUM ASAFOETIDA.—Fine qualities are scarce and very much wanted.

GUM MASTIC.—Firmly held, for fine clean pale new crop 2s. 3d. per lb. has been paid, which shows a slight advance.

**GUM MYRRH.**—For good picked myrrh 7l. 5s. per cwt. was asked at the last public sales, while for bold siftings 72s. 6d., and for pickings 50s. per cwt. was wanted.

**GUM TRAGACANTH.**—The first arrivals of the new crop have just come to hand, but they have not yet been brought to market. The market remains exceedingly firm, though there is not much business doing. "The total stock of tragacanth in New York," says the *Oil, Paint, and Drug Reporter*, "is estimated at less than 400 packages, while between 70 and 100 packages are reported afloat for this port, against a stock of 900 cases, spot and afloat, at this time a year ago. The demand continues active, and that fact, coupled with the statistics given above, leaves little room to doubt that a marked advance in prices all along the line will result ere long. The whole situation may be summed up in the statement that the present outlook of the market is wholly in the seller's favour."

**INDIARUBBER** active and dearer, with sales of fine Pará at 2s. 10d. to 2s. 10½d. per lb.

**IPECACUANHA.**—A small bale of 77 lbs. genuine root from Singapore, rather damaged, sold at auction at 7s. 3d. per lb., subject to approval. We hear of further small sales at the same rates as those paid at the auctions—viz., 7s. 5d. to 7s. 7d. per lb. for fair partly thin quality.

**JABORANDI-LEAVES.**—The parcel recently landed in Liverpool sold last week at 12d. to 12½d. per lb.

**JALAP.**—There has been a small arrival here, but the price generally is higher. Of 15 bales offered last Thursday four sold at the rate of 1s. 8d. per lb. for good genuine Vera Cruz, while for rather ordinary split 1s. 6d. was asked. We hear that in America there is a considerable stock, but it mostly consists of common pale and split qualities.

**KOLA.**—At the close of last week's auctions 18 bags of West Indian seeds were offered, of which 4 packages sold at from 6½d. per lb. for fair hard down to 4d. per lb. for ordinary.

**LITHIA SALTS.**—We hear from one quarter that the price has been fixed, but the manufacturers' agents assure us that that is not the case. Various quotations are current for *Carbonate of lithia*, if run from 9s. up to 11s. per lb.

**MANNA.**—The market is slightly easier, and a reduction of 1d. or 2d. per lb. would probably be accepted. The last price for good flake was 4s. 9d. per lb., f.o.b. Palermo.

**OILS (ESSENTIAL).**—American *Oil of peppermint*, H.G.H., might probably be bought on the spot to-day at 11s. 9d. per lb. *Menthol* is offering for December shipment at the comparatively low price of 9s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f. terms, and from that to 10s. 6d. upwards for nearer at hand. On the spot very full prices must be paid, and we hear that sales have been made of fair commercial quality at 11s. 6d. per lb. *Japanese peppermint oil* is offering at 6s. 9d. and 7s. per lb. on the spot, and at 6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f. terms, for a parcel which is now afloat. *Citronella*: A parcel of 24 cases in auction last week is held for ¾d. per oz. *Oil of star anise* is reported dearer to-day; the quotation for China is 5s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., prompt shipment, but we hear that none is actually offered. The highest sales actually known, however, are at the rate of 5s. 4½d. c.i.f., for December-January shipment; on the spot it is difficult to get anything, and 6s. 4½d. per lb. has been paid. *Cassia oil* is firmly held, with sales at 3s. 2½d. per lb. on the spot. Sales of *Lemongrass oil* are reported privately at 1½d. per oz. The new crop of *Ylang-ylang* is shortly due. In the meantime prices are rather high, having been raised by the principal importers some time ago. They range from 16s. per oz. for the chief brand downwards. *Cajuput oil* remains neglected. In Amsterdam the nominal price is 1s. 8d. per bottle.

**OPIMUM.**—There has been a fair business here at firm to slightly dearer prices. *Manufacturing* (good Tokat) has sold up to 8s. 6d. per lb., old *Salonica* at 9s. 6d., and a parcel of fine new crop *Salonica* at 10s. 9d. per lb. Several lots of *Persian* have also sold at from 9s. for fair up to 10s. 6d. per lb. for fine. The London stock (though no figures relating to it are now accessible to the public) is reported to be the smallest known for many years, and the new opium is said to arrive very slowly. Our advices from

Smyrna are somewhat contradictory. This is from our regular correspondent, writing on November 19:—"During the last day or two our opium market has rapidly advanced, with speculative purchases, owing to the failure of the autumn sowings. The last price paid for current talequale was 7s. 7d. per lb., f.o.b.; but unless the consuming markets respond, a reaction is inevitable, especially as the rains have set in; and although the season is over for the first sowings in the northern districts, such is not the case in the lower districts, and should we have a mild winter the cultivation of the poppy-plant will be continued in the highlands, and we may have again, next year, a good average crop. The week's sales amount to 150 cases." Another report states that "the advance is making further progress, about 100 cases of talequale opium having been sold during the week ending on November 19. The whole excitement is based upon the alleged failure of the winter sowings, and as it was known that there were orders in the market that had to be filled at any price, five or six local speculators began to buy, and succeeded in driving up the price to a ridiculously high figure. It is not true that there has been no rain in the growing districts—this morning's telegrams announce general and heavy rains. In Smyrna, until November 18, the weather was splendid and quite dry, but in the night of the 18th it began to rain heavily." These rains are likely, this informant thinks to damp very considerably the hopes of the party that is working for a rise. A rumour has been put about by some of that clan that the next crop would only be 4,000 baskets, but in reality it is much too early yet to warrant any assertion of that kind.

**ORRIS-ROOT.**—The market is steady, but there is no important alteration in the price. Fine selected Florentine is quoted at 95s. per cwt., c.i.f., though on the spot here some holders ask as much as 120s. for this kind, and 100s. for sorts.

**QUICKSILVER** is slightly firmer in second hand, which now holds for 6l. 8s. 6d., while the importers still ask 6l. 10s. per bottle.

**QUININE.**—There is a report that a small sale of second-hand German bulk has been made to-day at 9d. per oz., showing a decline of ½d. Another report speaks of 10,000 oz. at 9½d. per oz.

**RHUBARB.**—After the close of last week's auctions a fair quantity of ordinary and medium *High-dried* root was disposed of privately. Our information from China is to the effect that there is no more high-dried or Canton root to be procured there, while odd lots of Shensi root are still coming to market intermittently.

**SAFFRON.**—The reports concerning this article are very contradictory. We hear from one quarter that efforts are being made among some dealers in Valencia to form a combination; these attempts date from September, when the market was still up, and subsequently allowed to drop again when the new crop was in sight. Now the outside assistance of a firm of bankers has been secured, and it has been decided to buy up the whole of the crop as it comes to market. The prices here are quoted at from 25s. up to 28s. for best *Valencia*, and from 23s. to 26s. 6d. for second quality, but it is said that no purchases of the new crop have yet been made from the Valencia market. *French saffron* is reported cheaper.

**SENNA.**—The *Valetta* has brought 235 packages Tinnelly senna from Bombay.

**SHELLAC.**—The delivery market opened flatly this week, with some business at 86s. 6d. for TN orange for December, and at 87s. for ditto, February delivery. At auction on Tuesday 671 cases were offered, of which rather over 200 sold at a decline of 1s. to 2s. per cwt. on *Second orange*. *Garnet lac* was also easier, but *Button lac* remained steady. The following were the quotations: *Orange*, B in octagon, fair pale, held for 100s., a bid of 98s. being refused; second orange, worked good flat red brought 87s., unworked good bright 88s. to 89s., ordinary blocky 81s. to 82s. *Garnet* sold at 76s. to 77s. per cwt. *Button*, unworked seconds at 85s. to 89s., thirds at 81s., and fourths at 78s. per cwt. To-day the market is steady but quiet. The statistical position is undeniably favourable, but buyers appear to entertain a good deal of mistrust in the future of the article.

The new shellac is now in course of preparation in India, and no reliable particulars regarding the probable output are ascertainable. *Orange TN* for March delivery has been sold at 86s. 6d. per cwt. to-day, and for February at 87s. per cwt.

**SPICES.**—*Ginger* remains quiet, with very little business. *Cochin*, however, sold at auction at full prices; rough, small dull to medium brown, at 50s. to 51s.; medium to bold cut at 82s. per cwt. No Jamaica ginger was sold at auction. Reports from Calcutta, state that the supplies are exceedingly limited, and held for very high prices. *Cassia lignea* remains dull at 22s. per cwt. *Nutmegs* are slow of sale, and tending easier for all kinds except fine bold, which remain firm. *Mace*, *Topioca*, and *Sago* remain very flat; for *Pimento* there was a fair demand, and 400 bags common sold at 2½d. to 2¾d. per lb. for low to medium. *White pepper* is steady, with sales at 3¾d. to 3¾d. per lb. for Penang, 4¾d. for Siam, and 5½d. per lb. for rice bold Singapore. *Black pepper* quiet. Fair Singapore sells privately at 3¾d. per lb.

**STAR ANISE.**—China reports, dated October 27, speak of a further advance, and say that there are no sellers, even at the nominal quotation of \$34 per picul. Native dealers are afraid that they have oversold themselves already, and will not be able to deliver in time.

**STICKLAC.**—There is only inferior woody quality offering on the spot, and the market is very firm. There are buyers to arrive at 68s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

**TEA.**—The Congou market is inclined to be easier, and commonest Kaisow of this season is selling down to 5½d. per lb., while some good Panyongs, Chingwos, and Pecco Congous have changed hands from 6½d. to 9d. per lb. Common Capers are steady, but better sorts dull and irregular in price. Oolongs are in more plentiful supply, and, being badly wanted, a good business has resulted. Assams and Ceylons are a trifle weaker for lower grades, a large break of 600 chests coarse broken Assam selling as low as 5d. per lb. on Wednesday, though this was an exceptional quotation. Assam Pekoes from 10d. to 1s. are now very good value, and any really stand-out teas of these grades are usually safe to buy at this time of the year. Broken Pekoes under 1s. are cheaper than they were, though not so cheap as the Pekoes referred to above. The Ceylon sales are small, but the demand appears smaller. Fair useful teas can be bought from 8d. to 9d.

**TONQUIN BEANS.**—Good to fine frosted *Angostura* beans are held for 10s. to 11s. per lb.; ordinary to fine frosted *Pará* at 1s. 4d. to 2s. 9d. per lb. There has been a fair amount of business in *Pará*, but the sales have been mostly of common foxy beans at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d., though for good black 2s. per lb. has also been paid.

**TURMERIC** is sluggish and dull of sale at auction, where 560 bags fair bright *Cochin* bulbs and lean bulby *Bengal* finger were bought in, the former at 10s., the latter at 25s. per cwt. Privately 9s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt. has been paid, it is said, for *Cochin* bulbs, which would show an increase in value. The last sales of *China* turmeric reported were at the rate of 32s. per cwt. *Bengal* finger has sold privately at 23s. per cwt. *Madras* scarce, at 32s. to 34s. per cwt. for good finger.

**VANILLA.**—"Very scarce here," says a Mauritius report of November 11.

**VERATRINE.**—The price has been raised very considerably by the manufacturers, who now require 80s. per lb.; it was formerly about 64s. per lb.

**WAX.**—An advance of 1s. 6d. per cwt. is reported from Liverpool, where 56s. 6d. per cwt. is reported to have been paid for good yellow.

### THE LIVERPOOL MARKET.

**CALABAR BEANS.**—Sales have been made during the week at 1¼d. to 2d., and 2½d. is now the price.

**GUINEA GRAINS** are dearer, and 24s. has been paid for 15 bags just arrived.

**GUM ACACIA.**—*Gelirich* moves off steadily, 50 bales having sold at 30s., and now 32s. 6d. is asked for more. The

*Soudan* sorts are firmly held at 60s. to 75s. according to grade.

**HONEY.**—*Chilian* is moving off steadily at advancing prices. Values range from 24s. 6d. for pile 3 to 37s. 6d. for pile X. *Californian* continues scarce, and 52s. 6d. is asked for fine white, while 44s. to 47s. 6d. has been paid for yellow.

**OIL (CASTOR)** is flat at 2½d. per lb. for good seconds *Calcutta*, 2½d. second pressure, and 2½d. for first pressure *French*.

**QUILLAIA.**—Firm, as recent arrivals have gone into consumption to a large extent. The value of good bark is now 16l. 15s. to 17l.

**WAX (BEES')**—Steady at late prices for *Chilian*, but *African*, Gambia description, is selling at an advance of 2s. 6d. to 5s.

### THE AMERICAN MARKET.

(Telegram from our Correspondent.)

NEW YORK, December 1.

THE drug market generally is very quiet this week, and the demand all round has fallen off considerably. There has been an advance, however, in domestic sulphate of *morphia* in crystals, the price of which has been raised to \$1.45 per oz. Ordinary Mexican *sarsaparilla*, which was quite neglected in consequence of heavy arrivals, has again become much firmer. American oil of *peppermint* is somewhat firmer, with sales of 50 cases H.G.H. at \$2.52 per lb.

### THE DUTCH MARKET.

AMSTERDAM, November 24.

**CINCHONA BARK.**—All the analyses of the sales on December 8 have now been published. The manufacturing bark contains about 17 tons sulphate of quinine, or 4.64 per cent. on the average. About 5 tons contains 1–2 per cent.; 39 tons, 2–3 per cent.; 86 tons, 3–4 per cent.; 91 tons, 4–5 per cent.; 83 tons, 5–6 per cent.; 20 tons, 6–7 per cent.; 31 tons, 7–8 per cent.; and 3 tons, 8–9 per cent. sulphate of quinine.

### THE SMYRNA OPIUM MARKET.

(Telegram from our Correspondent.)

SMYRNA, Wednesday night.

THE sales of opium upon this market during the week ending to-day have been 70 cases fair usual kind of talequale at the rate of from 7s. 6d. to 7s. 7d. per lb. f.o.b. Smyrna. The market is still firm, but it is only kept up by the sustained efforts of speculators.

**SACCHARIN IN PRESERVES.**—Saccharin is now extensively used in preserves for preventing fermentation, and it may even be used alone for preserving fruit. When thus used, it is claimed that perfect sterility is secured by simply raising the temperature of the bottled fruit to 180° F. for about two hours and a half. The proper proportion of saccharin for this purpose is 1½ oz. to 4 gallons of water.

**STOCKTAKING** should never be neglected, and should be taken at least once a year. This is the only way to know just how well one's business is paying. It may decidedly increase the profits of a supposedly poor year by showing an increase in stock; or it may prove that you are making less than you supposed by showing a decrease in stock. A good way to save confusion and hurry in stocktaking is to make in odd moments a list of the stock in the order in which it stands on the shelves. You can take your time about this. This really comprises most of the work, as this skeleton can be filled in with prices and quantities very rapidly.—H. P. Campbell, Ph.G., in *Phar. Record*.



### Memoranda for Correspondents.

*Always send your proper name and address: we do not publish them unless you wish: if you do not, please use a distinctive nom-de-plume.*

*Write on one side of the paper only; and devote a separate piece of paper to each query if you ask more than one, or if you are writing about other matters at the same time.*

*If you send us newspapers, please mark what you wish us to read.*

*Ask us anything of pharmaceutical interest: we shall do our best to reply.*

*Before writing for formulæ consult the last volume, if you have it.*

*Letters, queries, &c., will be attended to in the order received.*

### Chemists' Wives and Chemists' Assistants.

SIR,—Many of your readers are acquainted with the saying "Jack is as good as his master," but "A Chemist's Wife" does not appear to be so, or, if she is, does not agree with it. Her "invitation" to dessert I should be inclined to resent. Having a good home of my own it is a thing which I have been accustomed to, and I should expect to partake of it if I wished without any ceremony. I may safely say, although I have had a fair number of situations, that the living has never been better than that which I get at home, and my only reason for going out is to get varied experience; but I must say that I have found it more generally the rule than the exception to treat an assistant as an inferior.

I admit with "A Chemist's Wife" that there are few gentlemen in the drug-trade. One has only to stand outside Galen Place at examination time to judge of the quality and deplore the want of manners, slovenly appearance, and ungrammatical conversation of the candidates for pharmaceutical honours. What I mostly complain of is the fact that when a man is a "gentleman" he does not get treated as such.

I would also like to point out to "A Chemist's Wife" that as the business of chemist and druggist is merely a respectable trade, or quasi-profession at the best, gentlemen by birth are hardly likely to take it up, especially now that the examinations are almost as "stiff" as those for the properly recognised professions, and almost as expensive.

Yours truly,

NUDA VERITAS. (147/49.)

SIR,—Will "A Chemist's Wife" be kind enough to let me know if her husband has a vacancy for an assistant? I do not want any 60%, 70%, or 80% per annum. That priceless privilege of dessert on Sunday will be wages enough for me.

Yours truly,

November 25.

BARDOLPH. (174/16.)

SIR,—I have always found through my twenty-five years' experience that as long as assistants act as gentlemen in the house they are respected as such by the wife of the employer. Wives naturally resent any conduct from an assistant which tends to disarrange the order of the household; neither can they overlook undue familiarity with the servants.

The wife has her duties to perform as well as her husband's interest to guard; and wherever assistants recognise this I have invariably noticed the good wife has put the comfort of the assistant foremost in her thoughts beside those of husband and children.

Faithfully yours,

November 26.

OBSERVER. (251/15.)

SIR,—Allow me to say a few words in reply to the letter signed "A Chemist's Wife," though I doubt not it is the product of both the chemist and his wife. "Amusement" does not sufficiently express the feeling with which I read her (?) letter, who decides so definitely as to the incompetence

of those "complaining assistants." Perhaps if she were to attend to the shop, and they were to do household work things would improve. "When we get gentlemen in the drug trade" (chemists as well as their assistants), and the Mrs. Chemists ladies in the true meaning of the word, then, and not till then, will masters (and mistresses) treat assistants with sterling good feeling.

"A Chemist's Wife" should not be so easily amused, as she professes to be, at "A Man of the World's" letter. It seems as though the cap fits her. Many chemists, when paying the monthly salary to their assistants—and this a week or two late—do so with the grace of bears, and certainly tend in this way, almost as much as Mrs. Chemist in hers, to treat them as interlopers. In many places they are held to be still at their mothers' apron-strings. Codes of rules are fixed up, similar to those at schools for small children, forbidding them to visit their bedrooms, except when retiring, and many others. It almost seems a pity that they cannot fly up outside the house, and pop in at the window, poor wretches, instead of defiling the sacred stair-carpet.

Yours truly,

London, November 29.

FAIR PLAY. (177/34.)

SIR,—"A Chemist's Wife" should certainly devote her talents to other than pharmaceutical affairs, of which she seems rather ignorant, whatever capabilities she may possess as regards household affairs. What chemist gives 60%, 70%, or 80% per annum to the man who cannot make a mixture or take charge for a few hours? He must be a "rara avis," indeed, for this is expected of apprentices and juniors, at a very much smaller salary. Is it not better for all concerned when the ladies act their part well—see to the assistant's comfort, whatever his abilities, and leave the rest to their husbands?

A WELSHMAN. (177/18.)

SIR,—I can fully endorse the remarks of "Man of the World" and "Robami" re Mrs. Chemist. The majority of chemists' wives look upon assistants as necessary evils and treat them as such, instead of treating them as their equals. Were this remedied it would very much ease the friction existing in many places between master and assistant, and also check the wholesale migration of qualified men to the stores. I have had one comfortable home myself, and, although some time ago, I still have a vivid recollection of a few of the comforts it was my lot to share during a brief stay in that comfortable mansion; it was truly a delivery of Israel out of Egypt when I left that comfortable home to return no more. The letter in your last publication from a chemist's wife is ludicrous. The privilege of dessert on Sunday afternoons she seems to think has never been within the reach of an assistant until he arrived at that luxurious home. The marked preference shown by the assistant for the society of the servant certainly speaks volumes for the genial company and charming manners of the lady of the house. The assertion that assistants were not capable of making up a simple mixture requires very little comment, as a man who has been through the Minor examination of the Pharmaceutical Society must be efficient to this extent, and the lady must refer to such a man, as unqualified assistants do not earn 60%, 70%, or 80% per annum.

Yours faithfully,

AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM. (178/31.)

SIR,—If further evidence were required as to the way indoor assistants are treated, the letter in your last issue signed "A Chemist's Wife" would, I think, abundantly supply it. This lady seems to regard the making of an assistant's bed as a "trivial matter" unworthy of her attention. Should a badly-made bed lead to the loss of a night's rest, I would not consider it at all a trivial matter, especially to a man engaged in the responsible and delicate work of dispensing medicines, a serious mistake in which might mean ruin to his employer. In my experience (a somewhat extended one) three-fourths of the disagreements between employers and assistants are distinctly traceable to Mrs. Chemist. So long as the governor is a bachelor things go on swimmingly, but directly the wife appears on the scene the assistant's troubles begin. One is curious to learn in what

way the luckless wights who "were invited on Sunday afternoons to join us at dessert" offended against the proprieties. Did they venture on a second glass of sherry when they were only expected to take one? Or were they observed to wink at that slavery for whose society they evinced "such a marked preference"? In truth, the indoor system is rotten to the core, and Mrs. Chemist is, perhaps, not altogether to blame, as both parties are in a false position, in which I consider it impossible for either to be comfortable. Naturally her aim is to conduct the establishment as economically as possible, while the assistant's inclinations would generally lie in a contrary direction—although no right-minded man would like to see waste in a household, or, for that matter, anywhere else. Many chemists keep an assistant who can barely afford to do so, and the latter is often of necessity made to feel the *res angusta domi*, which I contend is altogether unfair.

I am, yours truly,  
AN EMANCIPATED ASSISTANT. (254/14.)

SIR.—It was with a feeling akin to regret that I read the letter of a "Chemist's Wife," regret that made me feel sorry for her husband. Whilst giving advice to young men, urging them to become efficient, to me it is evident she must waste a lot of time that would be better spent in directing her domestic affairs, and no doubt her presence behind the counter has driven the poor assistant to seek a little relief and recreation in the kitchen with the servant.

After some twenty-five years of an assistant's life I have some little knowledge of the ups and downs we have to encounter. But this lady occupies a very unique position, and happy must she be to have a husband who can afford to pay from 60% to 80% per annum for incompetent indoor assistants. Might I ask what would this lady think a fair remuneration for a competent gentleman? As for the stereotyped phrases, "home comforts," and "one of the family," they are more honoured in the breach than in the observance. All such advertisements as "Churchman preferred," "no Dissenter need apply," "abstainer, &c.," "home comforts, &c.," I have always strictly avoided, and am happy to say I have been fortunate enough to meet with good masters, motherly mistresses, and gentlemanly brother assistants.

Yours truly,  
G. RELWOF. (176/22)

#### Conditions of Labour in Pharmacy.

SIR.—I have watched the correspondence in your columns on "The Conditions of Labour in Pharmacy" with much interest. That there is room for improvement cannot be doubted. The condition of the business in this town is as follows:—Pharmacies are opened at 8 A.M. and close at 9 or 10 P.M.—or, rather, pretend to close, for the lights are in many cases simply turned lower and the door put in connection with a bell, so that anyone can enter without hindrance until about 11 P.M. Bad though this is, on Sundays one pharmacy is open throughout the day and others a big part of the day, and this, too, although an assistant is always in attendance. This may be allowable in the case of lock-up shops and those in which someone cannot always be in attendance to open at certain specified times during the day, provided it is not done ostentatiously; but in the case of those in which someone is always in attendance I consider it most deplorable that the doors should be open and at night all gas-jets fully ablaze. Is not this simply pandering to and endeavouring to increase Sunday trade? As "Rehmani" very truly points out, even when the door is closed the public are only too prone to ring the bell for the most trivial cause.

But where are our local secretaries? Surely they ought to be the ones—each in his own town—to endeavour to get the chemists to come to some mutual understanding as to hours of closing and Sunday attendance.

I do not agree with the accusations made against chemists' wives. I have had several indoor situations, and have always been treated by them with courtesy and consideration, and I am convinced that this is the case as a rule. At the same time I have known some—who I feel certain, would not do so without cause—speak regretfully of

the unpleasantness caused by the haughty bearing of the lady of the house.

I think we must look for better things to the formation of provincial pharmaceutical associations where chemists, by meeting together, may learn to distrust one another less and endeavor not to let their individual interests altogether obscure those of the community at large.

Yours truly,  
Hastings, Nov. 28. FOR PROGRESS. (176/60.)

SIR.—I have read with much interest the remarks made by your correspondents regarding "The Conditions of Labour in Pharmacy," and notice that a dissatisfied tone pervades the majority of these letters.

There are certainly some matters capable of improvement, but, all over, I do not consider a qualified assistant is at a disadvantage. As you have stated, it is well known that suitable qualified men are difficult to obtain. I give you my experience. Recently I came from Scotland to London, and, with the assistance of your Supplement, found myself installed in a very suitable situation, and was able even to select the one out of several I considered best, and this within two weeks of my arrival.

As to the indoor system—well, in Scotland, it is not at all the rule, and now, in England, it appears that the outdoor system is rapidly gaining favour. So why take an indoor situation if an outdoor one is preferred? I consider a qualified assistant can easily find an outdoor vacancy, and surely some good landladies are to be found.

If your correspondents are unqualified their position is very different. There are many excellent men who are unqualified, but they are at a great disadvantage, and it seems that the Pharmaceutical Society are likely to place them at a greater. While not stating that chemists' assistants are handsomely paid, yet, all things considered, I think their position is not so very unpleasant and unremunerative as some of your correspondents would indicate.

Yours truly,  
London, Nov. 28. J. A. ROBERTSON.

SIR.—I beg to enclose a copy of a letter which this Association has sent to all Chemists' Assistants' Association in England, in consequence of the debate opened by Mr. MacEwan at a recent meeting and reported in your columns. We have also sent a copy of the letter to each of the Scotch Associations, but we do not exactly ask them to join with us, on account of the different conditions which prevail north of the Border.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
Chemists' Assistants' Association, E. F. HARRISON,  
103 Great Russell Street, Hon. Sec.  
November 29.

[Copy.]

DEAR SIR.—At a meeting of this Association on October 27 a discussion took place on "The Conditions of Labour in Pharmacy." The matter was well discussed, and a resolution passed referring it to the Council of the Association to consider what steps to take to induce employers in pharmacy throughout the country to reduce the hours of assistants to 74 per week, which is the maximum time allowed by recent Act of Parliament for persons under 18; this not being taken to necessarily imply any alteration in the hours of keeping open shop, but merely an allowance of leisure to assistants at some convenient time so as to reduce their actual hours in the shop.

When the matter was considered at the Council meeting, it was unanimously decided to endeavour to secure the co-operation of all Chemists' Assistants' Associations in the provinces. I shall therefore feel obliged if you will take what steps you think proper to ascertain the feelings of your Association on the matter, as there can be no doubt that the united action of such bodies will carry far more weight than any isolated attempt could do.

The exact method of approaching employers on this matter would of course be settled conjointly by all the Associations co-operating in it; my Council would suggest, however, that a circular letter issued by the Associations conjointly to employers would, perhaps, be a suitable means of bringing the matter to their notice.

Whatever plan is ultimately decided on, it is sufficiently apparent that it is only by united action that we can hope to secure any advantage; and I need say nothing here to emphasise the importance of the matter, and the great desirability of obtaining a reduction in assistants' hours.

I am, &c.,

SIR,—Referring to the correspondence now being carried on in your paper, and speaking as an assistant who would not go to the stores under any consideration, do you not think that chemists themselves are to blame for driving their assistants to the stores? In an ordinary London situation the assistant is in shop from 8 A.M. to 9 P.M., while in the stores the hours are from 9 A.M. to 6 P.M. He is better paid on the average at the stores, and it is a position for him for life if he wants one. In the ordinary chemist's shop one gets up to go into shop and goes out of shop to go to bed, and "in one of the comfortable homes, too."

Mr. Sangster says that, in his youth, the assistants had "no evenings off, no yearly holiday, 30% maximum salary, and 7 to 11 ordinary day." Now, he says, "they ruin their future prospects by accepting situations in stores and cutting-shops." If these are facts (and I don't doubt it), does it not seem that it is "the stores and the cutting-shops" who have already benefited the assistants generally so much by reducing the hours, raising the pay, &c.? "A Man of the World" says he does not see that much can be done to shorten the hours of business, as the public will not purchase their physic until the evening in the suburbs of London and large towns. But if we shut the shops early people must shop early. They do at the stores, and I find, by experience in other places, that they will do so.

Yours truly,

November 23.

H. E. DURBIN.

#### The Stability of Hydrogen Peroxide.

SIR,—In answer to the communication of "Spatula," in your last number permit me to direct his attention to the patent preserved peroxide of hydrogen made by this company, and to inform him that this preparation is the outcome of an exhaustive investigation which was personally made by the undersigned some years since. More recently the investigation has been extended, and the article as now sent out by us is even more stable than that which we made formerly. It can be shipped to America and Australia in wooden casks, and after many months shows only a slight depreciation in strength.

Yours, &c.,

For THE SANITAS CO. LD.,

C. T. KINGZETT, F.I.C., Managing Director.

Letchford's Buildings, Three Colt Lane,  
Bethnal Green, E., Nov. 25.

SIR,—For the guidance of your readers generally and your correspondent "Spatula" we take this opportunity of saying, as a result of considerable experience, that if about a drachm of ether, alcohol, or S.V.R. is added to a Winchester quart of  $H_2O_2$  very much greater stability is maintained.

It should, however, be remembered that such additions may interfere with the ultimate results intended by the user. For some purposes—in which ammonium-chloride does not interfere with the result—the addition, to slight acidity, of HCl is equally useful. Before using the  $H_2O_2$  this acidity may be corrected by adding liq. ammon. to neutrality—that is, if acidity interferes with the desired result.

Rubber corks are infinitely preferable to ordinary ones, and the extra cost is soon repaid by the preservation of the solution.

$H_2O_2$ , especially the high strengths, should be kept in a dark place, at an even temperature, 60–65° F. A low temperature is as injurious as a high one.

After all, regard must be had to the ultimate use for the  $H_2O_2$ . For some purposes acidity is essential, for a few alkalinity, for others acidity at first, with alkalinity as a "finish," or vice versa.

At best,  $H_2O_2$ , especially when above 12 volumes strength, is a somewhat uncertain solution to preserve, and a most unsatisfactory article to guarantee as to strength beyond a limited period of time. We may incidentally observe that the violent agitation  $H_2O_2$  receives during conveyance accounts very largely for the loss of both packages and solution from internal pressure of the liberated oxygen. This pressure often exerts quite explosive force. The looseness of the affinity of the second molecule of oxygen is illustrated by the fact that if a nail, for instance, is accidentally dropped into quite a large bulk of  $H_2O_2$ , especially of the higher

strengths, evolution of oxygen proceeds with surprising rapidity, reducing the strength to as low as 5 volumes.

In another part of your journal you refer to sodium superoxide as a "bleach." For the rougher uses it may answer, carefully manipulated; but for pharmaceutical purposes, in our experience, its use has, so far, not been attended with good results.

We are, yours truly,

THOMAS TYRER & CO.

Stirling Chemical Works, Stratford, E., November 29.

#### The Questionable Postcards.

From a correspondence which has passed between Mr. J. Gant, Thrapston, and Mr. Albert Archer, Torquay, we gather that the Earlfield man (C. Carr) and the Hampstead one (A. W. Salter) are one and the same. The latter's handwriting is identical with Carr's. The following is the letter received by Mr. Archer:—

12 Achilles Road, West Hampstead, November 14, 1892.

DEAR SIR,—When I was taking my holiday at Torquay, I, or rather my wife, purchased a 6d. packet of teething-powders, also inflammation or soothing-powders. Will you kindly send us another packet? 7d. enclosed.

Yours, &c.,

A. W. SALTER.

The handwriting here is identical with that on a postcard of Carr's in our possession. Mr. Archer was able to supply his correspondent with a 6d. (unstamped) packet of teething-powders, with the following label:—

#### TEETHING-POWDER.

ALSO INFLAMMATION OR SOOTHING POWDER.

*These pink powders may be taken by any infant or very young child, being suitable and safe even for the most delicate.*

DOSE: When the gums are inflamed, and fits or convulsions are apprehended, give a powder in cream, treacle, or liquid jam, and repeat in twelve or twenty hours. Under six months half one.

He has not since heard about the matter, and presumes that the label has passed. It is an ingenious label certainly.

From what we have heard from another quarter we suspect that "Carr" and "Salter" are assumed names. Mr. A. W. Hinde (Banbury) writes:—"I was also one of the favoured (?) few who received a request for a price-list or handbill of my specialities. Being naturally of a somewhat inquiring nature, before I sent them I inquired the reason of so kind a request for expected favours to come. I received a reply which is somewhat unique, compared with some which other of your correspondents received, and as a hint to London and suburban chemists to at once reduce their charges, I append it:—

12 Achilles Road, West Hampstead.

DEAR SIR,—Your inquiry is easily answered. I merely wanted a price-list of your medicines to compare with prices one has to pay in London, as I supposed that medicines might be cheaper than in London, where everything is so expensive. If you do not feel that you can compete with prices here, please do not trouble to send price-list.—Yours,

A. W. SALTER.

Feeling the utter hopelessness of attempting to compete with my fellow 'pillers' in London, I did 'not trouble to send a price-list.'

Mr. Henry J. Tottle (Epsom) states that about eighteen months ago he was written to from St. James's Street, W., as to the price of his "Corn Cure." He was suspicious, and replied on a post-card, that the price of his "Corn Solvent" was 6d. per bottle; any size larger could be supplied at desire. He heard nothing more of it.

Mr. G. B. Gudgen, of Kimbolton, writes to thank us for calling attention to this matter. He received one of the post-cards and threw it into the fire.

#### Syr. Ferri Iodidi.

SIR,—I should be glad to have the opinion of others as to what colour the finished product of syrupus ferri iodid., B.P., should be. By the old process, 1867 B.P., I always got a nice sea-green syrup, but by the new process, 1885 B.P., where

part of the sugar is boiled with the sol. fer. iod. and then filtered into the clear syrup, I get a brownish tinge with every batch. Is that as it should be?

Liverpool, November 10. PHARMACIST. (225/29.)

#### Manchester Pharmacy.

SIR,—I have consulted one or two chemists and assistants about the letter from a "Doctor's Son" in last week's CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and the sum of the information I have gained, added to my own knowledge, is this. The other pharmaceutical classes in Manchester are well attended. The "stores" do not affect the general run of an average chemist's trade so much as some chemists and their assistants think, or so as much as competition between themselves does, and this applies both to the centre of the city and to the suburbs. One of my informants tells me that at this place they get full prices for everything, and that their customers are willing to pay them. I do not think that any of our Manchester drug-stores look very much like "high-class chemists' establishments," either outside or inside, and I can only think of one or two chemists' shops that look like drug-stores; but, on the other hand, I know of several in Oxford Street which look, and are, high-class places.

Finally, I do not know many chemists who are likely to settle down to "a portionless old age," and I do know several chemists, assistants, and apprentices who are very well satisfied with their prospect of making a respectable living, not by keeping a cutting-shop worked by dissatisfied apprentices, but as high-class pharmacists.

Yours truly,  
AN OXFORD STREET LOUNGER. (178/44.)

#### Mr. Sargent and Patent Medicine Proprietors.

Mr Charles Bromley, of Liverpool, the proprietor of the gout and rheumatic pills, sends us a copy of a letter he has received from Mr. Sargent, of Kensington, who "is desired to state this subject has been transferred by the Home Secretary to the Inland Revenue Commissioners in the settlement, the Acts not admitting of plural, off, or wholesale and retail licences together." Mr. Bromley, says had we not explained this in your journal, he should certainly have been greatly puzzled. We are puzzled still.

#### A Word for the Schools.

SIR,—I read with some surprise, in the report of the Dundee Chemists' Assistants' Association, the malediction pronounced by Mr. Jack on what he terms "those cramming shops which flooded them with their pupils." The cramming-shops to which he refers are our provincial schools of pharmacy. It would perhaps be interesting to know that Mr. Jack himself is indebted to one of these "shops" to which he so sneeringly refers for his own stock of knowledge. Instead of indulging in invective against these shops of cram, why not rather, from out of his more profound knowledge of the question of pharmaceutical education, kindly, and, in a more genial manner, suggest a means of improving it?

While education for examination remains undenominational, there always will be cramming-schools. There are obvious reasons why pupils from these schools should present themselves for examination with a scanty practical knowledge of botany, but I am utterly at a loss to see how that can be so with chemistry. Until a university training is provided, and a number of old "fogies" swept from off the examining boards and replaced by more capable men, so long will pharmacy march on its present weary way. Meantime, it is somewhat tantalising to see men sneering at those who throughout the country are engaged in the conscientious and laborious duties of preparing students for examination.

Yours faithfully,  
Gorebridge, Midlothian,  
November 23. GEORGE CHRISTIE.

#### "A Steamy Window Application."

SIR,—Last winter I made up for a grocer a preparation to prevent the above—the formula for which he had taken from a trade paper—as follows:—Glycerine, 1 oz.; methylated

spirit, 3 oz. Mix, and use on sponge. I did not try it; some of your readers may like to.

November 23.

H. I. T.

[This was given in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST many years ago. How does the paraffin now in the methylated spirit affect the application?—ED. C. & D.]

#### DISPENSING NOTES.

*The opinions of practical readers are invited on subjects discussed under this heading.*

#### A Danish View.

SIR,—Regarding to the protest from Mr. A. Mair in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of November 19, I should remark that I am of opinion that Messrs. Wilcox's rendering of the facsimile prescription's signature (1-3) is literally correct.

Dr. Paoli is evidently not a physician with English education. There is a trace of German method of prescribing in the facsimile, and, therefore, the fatal *s* must be read as it is plainly written: it occurs as a strong rule in all German prescriptions.

Although I was placed among the first lot who had rendered the prescription correctly in accordance with the opinion of the Editor, I should remark that I wrote "*pepsinæ puræ*," and not "*porci*."

That is, however, a matter of little importance; but I consider that, in this point, Messrs. Wilcox and Mr. A. Mair are quite right—the "*pepsinæ puræ*" seems very plain.

Perhaps our Australian *confrère* would make use of his authority in the matter.

Yours very truly,

A. VON CONOR-CAROLFELD-KRAUSE.

Otterup, Denmark, Nov. 23.

#### The Iridin Pills.

SIR,—In reply to 167/68, I found no difficulty whatever in making the iridin pills—merely added 6 grs. of powdered soap. I have sent you the half-dozen pills, three of which I vanished—the best course to pursue with pills of this description. The other three have been exposed to a moist atmosphere since Friday night.

Yours truly,

November 23.

JOIX. (176/4.)

[A very good pill indeed.—ED. C. & D.]

SIR,—If Somerset's pills are made strictly according to prescription, the result is a rather soft mass, but on adding a grain or two of pulv. rad. glycyrrhizæ it is quite hard enough for pills. I enclose the result I obtained with above process.

Yours truly,

Edinburgh, November 23.

GUN AINM.

SIR,—In your "Dispensing Notes" of this week (November 26) I find a "pill query." I tried it to night, and find no difficulty in making a good pill by the following method:—To 4 grains pulv. glycyrrh. add the ol. caryoph., rub them up together, then add the iridin; mix well, then mass with the ext. hyoscyami.

Faithfully yours,

Dublin, November 29.

W. G. MCNAB.

#### LEGAL QUERIES.

*Consult Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty" in regard to patent medicine questions.*

*General information regarding the laws affecting chemists and druggists is printed in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1893.*

*For stamp duties, licences, Customs regulations, &c., see the DIARY.*

174/50. G. W. B.—Sweet spirit of nitre is the old 0.850 spirit of the London Pharmacopœia. It is held by pharma-

ceutical experts that the B.P. spirit of nitrous ether, being much more active therapeutically, should not be given when sweet spirit of nitre is asked for. Upon that ground several prosecutions have been dismissed.

173/36. *Don.*—If you can satisfy a Court of Equity that your rival is fraudulently trading on the reputation you have created for the article, you can get an injunction to stop him; but we should think you would not be likely to succeed in the case you name. You might apply for the registration of your label, and if you succeed you could probably stop his use of a similar one under the Trade Marks Act.

174/30. *G. D. Co.*—A chemist may dispense poisons in a mixture without labelling them "Poison," no matter by whom prescribed, if he enter the prescription in a book, with the name and address of the person to whom it is sold or delivered, and if his own name and address appear on the label. A chemist who should prescribe ergot or saviue is going very far beyond his province, and would be deservedly punished severely if prosecuted for so doing. It might, indeed, become a murder-case.

175/55. *Photographic.*—We answered a query like yours as follows a few months since:—"You would be wise to treat sulpho-cyanide of ammonium as a poison within Part I. of the schedule, though it scarcely comes within the definition of 'metallic cyanides and their preparations.' In case of a prosecution, however, a Court might object to subtle chemical distinctions."

176/24. *W. A. R.*—The Assistant's Certificate of the Apothecaries' Hall does not convey the right to use any letters after your name.

176/36. *Thomas* asks if anyone on the list of persons whose names are given as wanted by the registrar to correct the register, should not see the list and should have his name erased, what effect does that have on the person in regard to carrying on business? and if, afterwards, he finds his name is erased, what are the fees payable to have it re-registered? The effect of the name being erased from the register is evidence that the person whose name has been thus deleted is not qualified to sell poisons or to call himself a chemist and druggist in Great Britain "until the contrary shall be made to appear." The restoration of the name to the register is optional with the Pharmaceutical Council, and a fee of one guinea is charged when this is done.

168/60.—*E. S. V.* says a customer brought to him a bottle for neatsfoot-oil, which was cracked round the bottom. Having put the oil in the bottle, it was handed to the man over the counter; the bottom came out and the contents were deposited on some "Scientific Mysteries," much to their detriment. So far from offering any compensation, he came back presently with another bottle for a second lot of neatsfoot-oil, for which he declined to pay. Who was responsible for the damage—he, for bringing a cracked bottle, or E. S. V. for not seeing it was so? [If you could prove that he knew the bottle to be so cracked as not to be capable of carrying the liquid he might, perhaps, be made responsible; but under other circumstances you must, we think, put up with the consequences of your oversight.]

176/31. *Rheum.*—It appears to be not legal for an unqualified person to sell Fellows's syrup.

176/2. *Lac.*—Your unqualified friends can put up the veterinary preparation containing poison and sell it wholesale without incurring liability under the Pharmacy Act, but they must label it with the name of the article and the word "Poison."

## MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

*Inquirers will please read the "Memoranda for Correspondents."*

*For all particulars regarding Educational and Examinational matters refer to our issue of September 17, 1892.*

*Replies to queries are inserted according to the space open in any week, and insertion on any specific date cannot be guaranteed.*

*Back numbers of our weekly issue, containing formulae, &c., occasionally referred to in answers, can be obtained from the Publisher at 4d. each.*

167/20. *Black.*—Your procedure was quite right, but you are labouring under the common notion that when essential oils are made miscible they are dissolved. It is not so. What results in the case of the Liq. Santal Flav. Co. is that you get a portion, and probably the more active portion, of the oils into solution. The product is what is wanted.

167/2. *Zemo.*—(1) You misunderstand what is meant by Peptonising Food. Pepsin is no better than a pinch of salt in a malted food, but pancreatin and bicarbonate of soda—say, 20 grains of each to the pound—added to the dry food will do no harm and will slightly justify the title. (2) *Asthma Cure.*—See THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, November 28, 1891, page 796, but omit the eucalyptus.

168/57. *Canada.*—When Sulphuric Acid is diluted with 8 or 10 volumes of water any lead in it is precipitated after some time; but without waiting for that, pass a little sulphuretted hydrogen through it. If there is lead present the acid will be turned black; arsenic alone imparts a yellow colour. Iron you can detect by adding a few drops of yellow prussiate of potash to the diluted acid (a blue colour resulting), and nitrous acid by the immediate discharge of the colour of potassium permanganate solution added drop by drop.

168/4. *E. A. H.*—Our Educational Number, September 17 is the proper place to seek for the information.

206/21. *C. D.*—There is no thoroughly reliable treatise published. The best directions for the manufacture of aerated waters are issued by the firms supplying aerated waters, to whom you should apply.

166/56. *H. T. W.*—What you seem to need is a steady Hepatic Stimulant. Try 15 drops of the following at 12 o'clock and 4 o'clock daily:—

Tr. nucis vomiceæ ..	..	..	..	3j.
„ podophyllini ..	..	..	..	5j.
Ext. cascara sagrada ..	..	..	..	5i.
„ sennæ fluid. ..	..	..	..	5j.

M.

Make the tincture of podophyllin by shaking up 8 grains of the resin in 1 oz. of tincture of ginger, and a ter a day filtering.

166/51. *Swiss.*—Published processes do not produce satisfactory Oiled Silk, we understand, and we have not seen it made.

175/57. *Leonard.*—Chemical Food.—See *C. & D.*, February 28, 1891, page 322.

175/6. *Ferrum.*—Use Ferro-prussiate paper, which you can obtain at 4d. per sheet.

158/65. *Cattle-medicines.*—It is not possible for us to say what the duties are on "cattle-medicines" in "Canada, Australia, America, California and New Zealand," unless you will first tell us of what your particular remedy is composed. "Cattle-medicines" as such are not recognised in the Customs tariffs—some would pay duty as oils, some as

alcoholic medicines; others, again (for instance, sheep-washes), would be duty-free in certain colonies. Please note that in Australasia alone there are eight different tariffs, and that all the States of the American Union have one Customs tariff—California the same as New York.

172/38. *Infusions*.—Concentrated Infusions are made by various methods, the oldest plan, which is still followed by some makers, being to exhaust the drugs with boiling water and evaporate the liquors to four-fifths of the required bulk, and add a fifth of rectified spirit—20 per cent. of spirit being the proportion generally used. In making, say, gentian, take eight times the quantity of the B.P. solid ingredients and macerate in 8 oz. of boiling water for four hours, keeping the infusion-jar warm all the time, then allow to cool, add 2 oz. of rectified spirit, and press out the liquor. Reserve this portion. Infuse the marc in 10 oz. of boiling water once more for an hour, and repeat the infusion with other 10 oz. Evaporate these infusions to the quantity required to make with  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of spirit 10 oz. of liquor with the reserved portion. This is a plan which may generally be followed on a small scale, especially infusions containing aromatics. The colour of quassia infusion made in the cold is always light. Caramel is sometimes added to it. Senega is the better for the addition of a few drops of ammonia if it is desired to have it clear. For further particulars see "The Art of Pharmacy" (THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1887) and THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, September 14, 1889, page 377; December 21, 1889, page 854; and February 22, 1890, page 250.

175/41 *Cherry* is troubled with a slight separation of clear liquid from the following Cherry Tooth-paste:—

Carmin...	..	..	..	..	gr. xlv.
Pulv. iridis.	..	..	..	..	3j.
Mag. carb. lev.	..	..	..	..	3j.
Crete precip.	..	..	..	..	lb ss.
Syrup. et glycerin.	..	..	..	..	q.s.
Ol. caryoph.	..	..	..	..	℥ xxx.
„ rose gal.	..	..	..	..	℥ xvj.
„ gualther.	..	..	..	..	℥ viij.
„ menth.	..	..	..	..	℥ x.

[A little too much glycerine apparently. Use only 1 part of glycerine to 3 parts of syrup, and add to the powders 20 grains of tragacanth.]

171/71. *Nux Vomica*.—See the article on "Acne" in the 1893 DIARY, page 302.

172/19. *A Subscriber*.—(1) See reply 166/21 last week. (2) The Weights and Measures Acts extend to Ireland.

171/64. *Ovi*.—Colouring for Egg-powder.—If turmeric is unsuitable, and saffron too expensive, try naphthalin yellow, or any other of the artificial yellow dyes—Crawshaw's canary, for example.

172/30. *P. G.*—(1) Powdered boracic acid is largely used for Preserving Butter. It may be used in the proportion of 1 oz. to 14 lbs. of butter, along with 4 oz. to 8 oz. of salt, according to the length of time it may be kept. (2) Rancidity cannot be removed from butter. (3) Butter-flavouring is largely used by manufacturers of margarine. We do not know where it can be obtained in this country, but we inquire.

170/41. *W. W. (Chatteris)*.—Oil of Spike in agricultural districts somewhat varies. Oil of turpentine coloured with alkanet and ol. sambuci vir. are the commonest things.

170/20. If your battery is the usual one used for bells—that is, with the gas-carbon in the inner porous cell—charge the outer cell with a saturated solution of sal ammoniac.

173/65. *R. J. & S.*—The Liquid Dentifrice which we prefer is one with quillaia as a saponifier. The formula is as follows:—

Quillaia, in coarse powder	..	..	..	3iv.
Glycerine	..	..	..	3iij.
Rectified spirit	..	..	..	3v.
Water	..	..	..	Oiss.

Macerate for fourteen days and filter through magnes. carb. levis, 3ij. with which have been rubbed the essential oils—say oil of rose geranium ℥xx., otto of rose and oil of wintergreen of each ℥v., oils of pepper-mint and cloves of each ℥iij. Finally add benzoic acid 3j., tincture of pellitory 3ij, and colour with cochineal colouring, which is much more permanent than ammoniacal solution of carmine. Set the dentifrice aside for two weeks, and again filter if necessary.

248/26. *R. H.*—Putty powder is used for Polishing Ivory.

#### Information Supplied.

*Tinct. Petrolei*.—In reply to 167/18, the only tincture of petroleum of which I am cognisant is the homeopathic one. It is made by dissolving rectified petroleum oil in rectified spirit (60 o.p.) in the proportion of 1 in 10. This constitutes the first decimal attenuation (or 1<sup>x</sup> tincture), and the higher dilutions are made therefrom.

C. S. ASHTON.

*Unicorn-root*.—In reply to "C. M., jun.," the above term has been applied to two plants of American origin, now distinguished as the "true" and the "false" unicorn-root. The former is the "star-grass" (*Aletris farinosa*), and the latter the "starwort" (*Chamaelirium luteum* or *Helonias dioica*). The roots of both have a medicinal reputation in the States, and, in recent years, some attempt has been made to popularise them in this country.

Brighton.

C. S. ASHTON.

#### Information Wanted.

Replies to the following are requested by subscribers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

175/37. What kind of tar or tar-oil is used for dressing rabbit-burrows, and for what purpose?

172/73. In mixing vin. quinae and vin. ferri I get (says T. E. S.) a thick gelatinous precipitate. Kindly explain why this is. I have often done so before without noticing anything of the sort. Both liquids are acid to litmus. [We shall be glad if anyone who has noticed this condition will express their views.]

175/53. Address of Poulton, maker of opal photographs.

172/30. Butter-flavouring: where obtainable?

261/21. Maker of teething-pads: trade-mark, two boys running.

#### CLOSE ME EARLY!

YE SHOPPE SUPPLYECATETH YE SHOPPE-KEYPERRE.

WILL you take and close me early, close me early, master dear,

At least on two-and-fifty eves in all the livelong year?

'Tis not for pity's sake alone this boon of you I pray,

For I'm sure the plan will pay, master, I'm sure the plan will pay!

From earliest morn till night, master, I hear—for walls have ears—

Your jaded slaves refer to you with jibes and taunts and sneers.

But if you'll turn an earlyite, they'll change their tune straightway:

Oh, I'm sure the plan will pay, master, I'm sure the plan will pay!

In having servants proud to push your daily interests lies

The secret of success in your commercial enterprise,

Take thought for your assistants' weal, and care for yours will they:

Oh, I'm sure the plan will pay, master, I'm sure the plan will pay.

The early closing cry, master, throughout the land has spread,

And, if you heed my timely plea, upon my boards will tread

A host of customers, I ween, who else would keep away:

Oh, I'm sure the plan will pay, master, I'm sure the plan will pay!

So I hope you'll close me early, close me early, master dear!

And, while I'm closed, your men and maids, who all so tired appear,

Will gain new life, new strength, new hope to help them on their way:

Oh, I'm sure the plan will pay, master, I'm sure the plan will pay!

The Star